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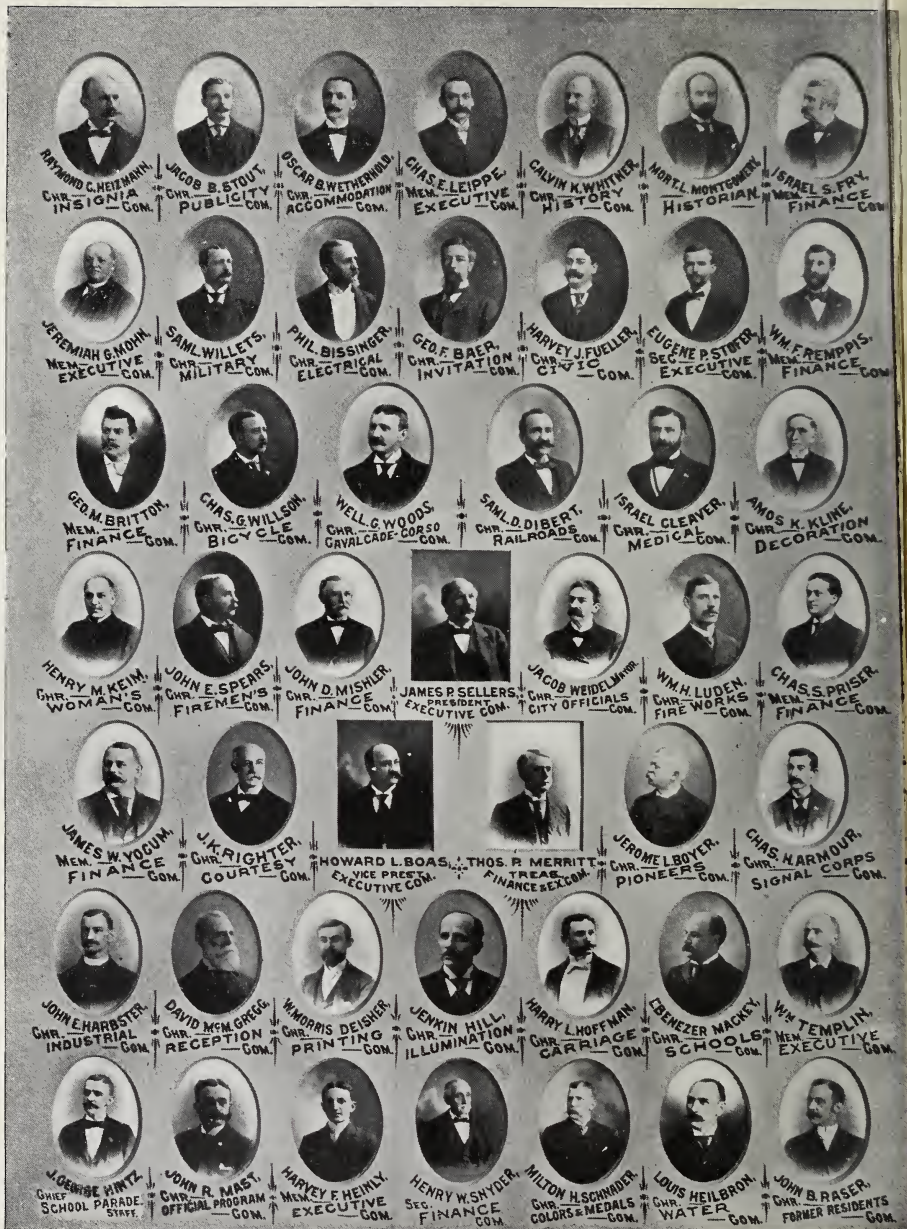
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Alfred Vincent Smith
Reading, Pa.







EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
 OF THE
 SESQUI-CENTENNIAL OF READING,
 JUNE 5-12, 1898.

1748—1898

HISTORY

—OF—

READING

PENNSYLVANIA

And the Anniversary Proceedings of the

SESQUI-CENTENNIAL

JUNE 5-12, 1898

COMPILED BY

MORTON L. MONTGOMERY

FOR THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

READING, PA.

TIMES BOOK PRINT

1898

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PREFACE.

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THE Committee on History, appointed by the Executive Committee of the Sesqui-Centennial Anniversary of Reading for the compilation of a concise history, together with a brief sketch of all the industries of the place and of the proceedings relating to the Anniversary, submit this volume as the result of their labors, after having given it their patient attention for more than six months. The undertaking was both difficult and laborious, and the reader will doubtless appreciate this assertion upon noting the numerous details and statistics in the several chapters of the volume. All the particulars had to be collected and systematically arranged by the compiler and submitted by him to the Committee, and in doing so much persistent inquiry was necessary. They can not hope to have published with absolute correctness so many pages as this volume contains, embracing such a large collection of names, details and statistics, but they did the best they could under all the trying circumstances and they would ask the public to measure criticism accordingly.

Most of the manufacturers replied cheerfully to the circular issued for supplying data for the chapter relating to the industries, and the remaining facts, wherever obtainable, were gathered from other sources. They had expected to present a statement, showing the total employees, wages, investment and production of Reading in 1897, in order to give the public a satisfactory idea of its extensive business relations, but they found this impracticable, and therefore that part of the undertaking had to be abandoned. However, sufficient information is published in the volume to indicate that Reading is indeed a great manufacturing centre, and that its productions have come to be shipped to all parts of the civilized world; and it is made apparent that this industrial situation has been the great means which effected the remarkable development of the place.

There are over five hundred shops, factories, foundries and works at Reading which produce over two hundred kinds of articles varying in size and weight from a clip, a small fastening for a spectacle lens, to an enormous cotton press, and of these over three hundred are briefly described as to character and ownership. It is a matter for general congratulation that the direction of local enterprises by business men and capitalists has resulted in establishing industries so greatly diversified in character, and the wisdom of this course has been fully demonstrated by the prosperous condition of affairs here during the past several years in spite of the trying times and the discouraging state of trade elsewhere.

It may be mentioned that this is the first attempt at presenting in a convenient form concise sketches and tabulated statements of the several industries of Reading in connection with its general history, and on this account the volume will be found of great value. The purpose of the Committee having been to supply the community with a complete and comprehensive book containing all the important facts relating to the founding and development of Reading, to the industrial establishments which brought about that development, and to the proceedings of the Anniversary, they are now pleased to say that this purpose has been successfully accomplished.

The compiler, Morton L. Montgomery, Esq., who was recommended by the Committee on Statistics of the Board of Trade, and appointed by the Executive Committee of the Sesqui-Centennial, spared no efforts in the discharge of his duties to make this publication a valuable souvenir of the extraordinary occasion. The Committee on History are highly gratified at the result of his labors. They express the belief that all persons, who are interested in the local affairs of Reading, will be equally gratified after having become acquainted with the contents of the volume, and they will doubtless unite with the Committee in saying that the publication reflects not only the ability and industry of the compiler, but the public spirit of the Executive Committee and also the liberality and appreciation of the people in behalf of the Anniversary.

CALVIN K. WHITNER,

Chairman of Committee on History.

Reading, July 8, 1898.

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HISTORY OF READING.

CHAPTER I.

PART I.—TOWN 1748 TO 1783.

First Occupants.—The Indians were the first occupants of this territory. They were called the *Minsi*, who constituted one of the tribes of the nation which was known as the *Lenni Lenape*. It is not known that other occupants preceded them, for no evidences of any kind have been found to prove a previous possession. When they first migrated here, has not been ascertained. It is supposed they came here from the North and West.

Grant to Penn.—The English came to own the territory by conquest from the Dutch in 1664, and King Charles II in 1681 granted the Province of Pennsylvania to William Penn in satisfaction of a debt due to his deceased father Admiral Penn for meritorious services. Notwithstanding this grant, William Penn recognized the claim of the Indians to the land, and therefore obtained their release. He died in 1718, possessed of this section, and devised it to his children.

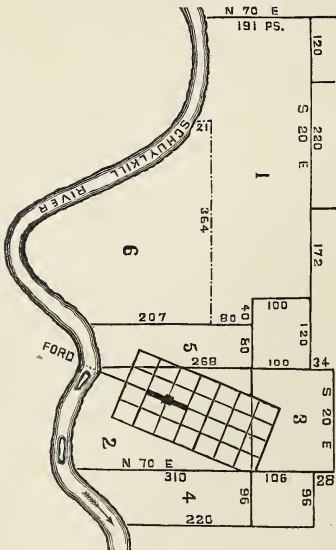
First Patents.—In the general desire to dispose of lands in this section, the Penns directed surveys to be made and patents issued, which will appear by the following statement:

1. Richard Hockley, tract for 1150 acres; survey, February 19, 1733.
2. Thomas Lawrence, tract for 300 acres; survey, March 19, 1733; patent, October 27, 1733.
3. Thomas Lawrence, tract for 137½ acres; survey, April 22, 1738; patent, February 16, 1739.
4. Samuel Finney, tract for 150 acres; survey, February 19, 1733.
5. Proprietary land, tract for 126 acres; survey, July 3, 1741.
6. Part of tract 1; on which lots were laid out, afterward called "Hockley Out-lots."

The tract for 1150 acres adjoined the river and extended from a line now occupied by Hockley and Woodward streets to

a line beyond the Charles Evans Cemetery, occupied by what was known for many years as Hiester's Lane.

Some years after these patents had issued, about 1740,



DRAFT OF FIRST PATENTS.

while efforts were being made to erect a county, (Berks) the Penns conceived the idea of laying out a town at this point, but finding that the land had been sold, they endeavored to re-purchase it. Lawrence, however, declined to re-sell his two tracts. Their agent then investigated the matter, and on September 28, 1743, addressed a letter to them in reference to the proposed "Town of Reading." This is the first mention of a town at this place. In 1745, lots were laid out on part 6, and this action induced Lawrence to re-convey his tracts.

Town Laid Out.—During the Fall of 1748, Penn's two sons, Thomas and Richard, caused a town to be laid out by Nicholas Scull, their surveyor general, on the land adjoining the Schuylkill, (Lawrence tract,) at the "Ford," in the road that extended from the Tulpehocken settlements to Philadelphia. It was named Reading, after the county town in Berkshire, England.

The town plan comprised 520 lots, and 204 out-lots, numbered consecutively. The lots between the river and King (3rd) street were laid out in 1776. The double line through these lots, on the accompanying plan, indicates the canal which extended through that section of the town from 1822 to 1834.

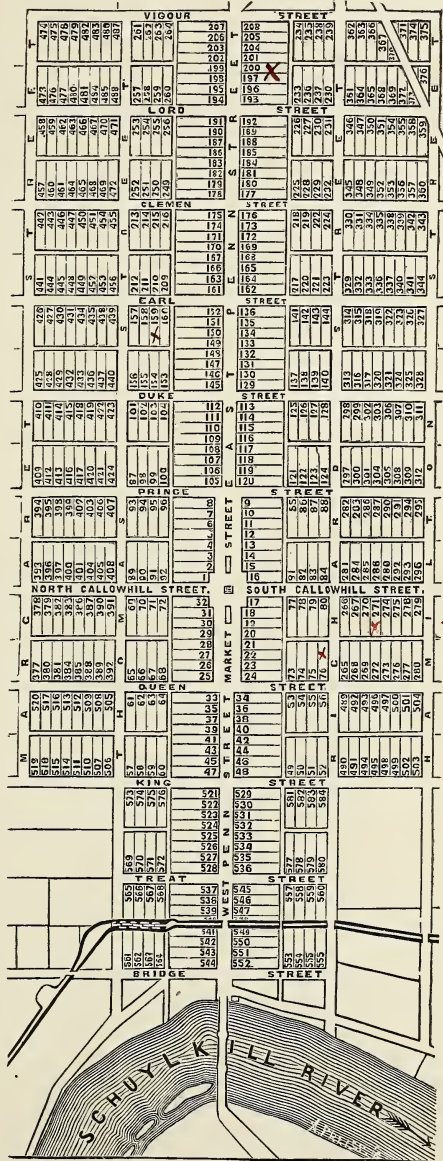
At that time there was not a town, not even a village in all the surrounding territory for many miles. The nearest town was Lebanon, 28 miles to the west, which had been laid out in 1740; and the next was Lancaster, 33 miles to the southwest, which had been laid out in 1728.

Lots Sold.—Penn's sons then appointed Conrad Weiser, Francis Parvin and William Hartley as commissioners to sell

the lots, and on June 15, 1749, they sold a large number of them. In 1751, 1752, 1753 and 1754 patents were issued for 241 lots, and if the conditions of sale were complied with, there were in the town by the year 1755, at least 200 dwellings and 1000 inhabitants.

County Seat.—By a petition, presented to the Assembly at Philadelphia on February 4, 1752, in behalf of the erection of a new county (Berks), it appears that Reading then contained 130 dwelling houses, besides 41 stables and other out-houses; 160 families which consisted of 378 persons. It is known that there were three churches in the town at that time, Lutheran, Reformed and Friends, all erected in 1751.

County Erected.—While the lots were being sold and houses erected, and the town was forming, earnest and successful steps were taken to establish a county with Reading as the county seat, and an Act was passed by the Assembly at Philadelphia on March 11, 1752, erecting Berks county. At that



TOWN PLAN—1748.

time there were six other counties in Pennsylvania, and in Berks county there were twenty townships, twelve east of the Schuylkill with Philadelphia as the county seat, and eight west with Lancaster as the county seat. The population was about 12,000 as near as it can be estimated, which was located almost entirely south of the Blue mountains. The early settlers were Swedes, Germans, English and Welsh; the first named being situated in Amity township (south-eastern section), the second in all parts of the county excepting Robeson and Caernarvon, the third in Oley, Exeter, Maiden creek and Richmond (in the central section), and the last in Brecknock, Caernarvon, Cumru and Robeson (southern section.)

Taxables of 1759.—In 1759, there were 269 taxables in Reading, whose names were as follows :

Benezet, Daniel	Diehm, Thomas	Fichthorn, Andrew
Bright, Michael	Dehaven, Edward	Fasig, Ph. Jacob
Bird, William	Debler, Melchior	Geissler, George
Biddle, James	Dorff, Samuel	Gibson, Francis
Bishoff, John	Depoy, Widow	Garrett, Henry
Bucher, Jacob	Deible, George	Geiger, John
Bernhisel, John	Dengler, John	Geiger, Adam
Barret, Joseph	Dorst, Paul	Gross, John
Burkhardt, Jacob	Dick, Nicholas	Graff, William
Buckman, Matthias	Diel, George	Gerst, Henry
Boyer, Christopher	Evans, Amos	Gosler, Henry,
Becktold, John	Engel, Andrew	Gotschall, Nicholas
Baum, Peter	Ege, Adam	Haga, Wolfgang
Bernhard, George	Ermel, William	Hause, Peter
Balde, Jacob	Early, John	Hottenstein, William
Brendlinger, Joseph	Eissenbice, John	Henry, John
Bower, Conrad	Ege, Martin	Hause, Peter
Brosius, Abraham	Eplar, Adam	Henderson, David
Brown Conrad	Earman, William	Henig, Balthaser
Bridenbach, Philip	Feather, Peter	Heiner, Krafft
Creek, Francis	Fisher, Jacob	Huth, Samuel
Cluse, William	Fox, Adam	Holdzader, Peter
Dalman, William	Frick, William	Hartman, John
Daum, George	Fix, Lawrence	Hollig, Barbara
Diehm, Jacob	Fass, Adam	Hugh, Owen
Diehm, Adam	Feagle, Matthias	Hughes, John
Dick, Jacob	Fricker, Anthony	Hiddings, William
Degenhardt, Henry	Fichthorn, Michael	Hauck, Joseph
Drury, Edward	Fetter, Michael	Heinlein, Matthias
Diehm, Peter	Fisher, Dorst	Hag, Michael

Heist, George	Leibbrook, Jacob	Riehm, John, Sr
Hillegas, Michael	Lutz, Jacob	Reiff, Conrad
Heyman, Moses	Lehman, Christopher	Roreboust, Bernhard
Hahn, Henry	Loch, Peter	Rabbold, Jacob
Hitner, George	Meyerly, David	Rose, Everhardt
Hausihl, Michael	Martin, Eberhard	Reitmoyer, Michael
Hetler, Jacob	Moyer, Jacob	Reitner, Joseph
Hart, Philip	Morgan, Francis	Reese, Josiah
Handshoe, George	Meng, Melchior	Rapp, Peter
Imler, Ludwig	Morgan, Jacob	Rush, Michael, Jr.
Jack, George	Marx, William	Rieser, Jacob, Jr.
Jacob, John	Messersmith, Val'tine	Sammet, Christian
Jäger, Jacob	Miller, Andreas	Sweitzer, John
Jung, Martin	Moritz, Nicholas	Smith, Christopher
Jung, Isaac	Meyer, Matthias	Shomon, Joseph
Jacobs, Israel	Miller, Frederick	Springer, George
Joh, George	Maurer, Ernst	Shrite, John
Kuhn, Adam	Megly, Jacob	Spang, Lenhart
Koch, William	Meyerly, Balthaser	Shower, Michael
Kerper, Abraham	Mergen, John	Schultz, Samuel
Kern, Jacob	Miller, William	Smith, Peter
Kline, Peter	Milleisen, Christopher	Seister, Michael
Kiney, Christian	Marsteller, Henry	Snyder, Jacob
Kerper, Julius	Marckle Christian	Stichter, Conrad
Kendel, Catharine	Neidly, Nicholas	Stedman, Alexander
Klinger, Philip	Neidly, Christopher	Shapport, Nicholas
Koch, Adam	Newhardt, Conrad	Schultz, George
Klinger, Peter	Nagle, Simon	Sowerbry, Widow
Koch, Johannes	Nagle, Philip	Strohacker, Gottlieb
Kerber, Valentine	Parvin, Francis	Smith, Philip
Krimler, Henry	Pearson, Benjamin	Shaaber, Andrew
Kemrer, Agath	Philipi, John	Snider, Henry
Klinder, Conrad	Perlet, Paul	Seiler, Philip
Klinger, Alexander	Perlet, Prederick	Shorp, John
Keiser, Jacob	Price, Evan	Shop, Gabriel
Keim, Nicholas	Read, James, Esq	Shreck, David
Kortz, John	Rush, Michael	Spatz, Lawrence
Krauser, Sebastian	Riehm, Edward	Spatz, Michael
Krafft, Martin	Reitmoyer, Henry	Sleagle, Adam
Kost, Martin	Rice, Michael	Sprincker, Philip
Kurrer, Adam Daniel	Reiffle, Adam	Senger, Henry
Kepner, Joachim	Reasor, William	Sassamanhousen, H.
Lincoln, Thomas	Reiff, Peter	Seitzinger, Nicholas
Leshner, John	Rule, Henry	Salsgaber, Andreas
Lapler, Lorentz	Rhine, David	Sump, George
Lebo, Paul	Ruth, Peter	Smith, Abraham
Levan, Isaac	Riehm, George	Suder, Barbara

Smith, Andrew
Urledig, Valentine
Wolf, Henry
Weiser, Peter
Wenrick, Francis
Weis, Philip

Wagner, Adam
Whitehead, James
Wicks, Christian
Weiser, Conrad
Wirtenberger, George
Wunder, George

Witman, Adam
Witman, Ludwig
Witman, Christopher
Wickersham, Isaac
Williamson, James
Witman, John
Zinn, Frederick

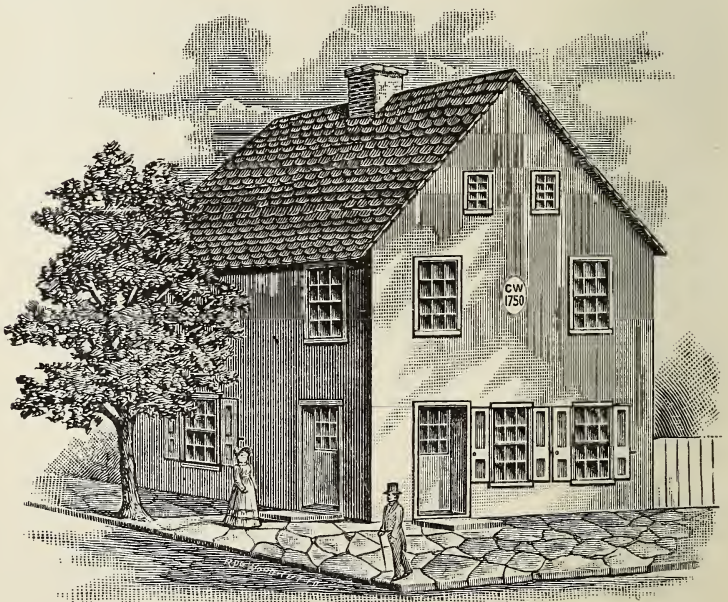
SINGLE MEN.

Barger, Thomas
Hartley, Richard
Jackson, Samuel
Josephson, Myer
Kemrer, Matthias
Koch, Michael

Lebo, Isaac
Lightfoot, Benjamin
May, Thomas
Nathan, Lyon
Pearson, Elijah
Popkin, Robert
Shegtley, Michael

Sheirer, Adam
Spindler, Lorentz
Sowermilk, John
Starr, James
Weiser, Samuel
Witman, Henry

Town District Established.—In 1760, the town and part of the township adjoining (Alsace) were erected into a district, called the "Township and District of Reading." The boundary lines were fixed by the Court in 1761. They enclosed about 950 acres

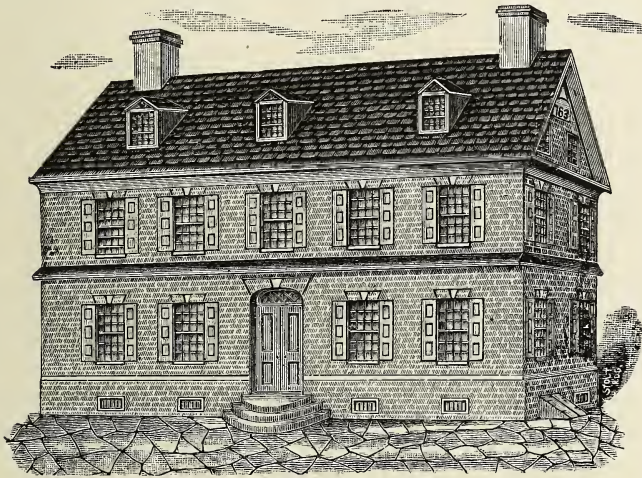


THE FIRST STORE.

First Store.—The first business place was the store of Conrad Weiser on Penn street above Fifth. He purchased the lot (No. 3) in 1749, and obtained a patent in 1751. Under the

conditions of sale, he doubtless erected a two-story stone building on it in 1750. He carried on business intercourse there with the Indians, and on this account the stand was given particular prominence. In 1769, Nicholas Keim became the owner. The Keims occupied it as a general hardware store for seventy years. Then the Stichters began, and they have been there since, now nearly sixty years.

Public Buildings.—A court house was erected in 1762; a market house in 1766; and a county jail in 1770; and in 1773, a fire company was organized, called the "Rainbow," which has maintained a successful existence until now.



FEDERAL INN.

Oldest Buildings.—Three old buildings, which were erected in this period of Reading, are still standing: two stories of the large hotel on northwest corner of Fifth and Washington streets, erected by Michael Bright for a tavern in 1760; two-story stone building on northwest corner of Penn square, below Fifth street, erected in 1763, by Adam Witman for a tavern, (Federal Inn) and occupied by the Farmers' Bank since 1814; and two story stone building on northeast corner Fifth and Washington streets erected by county commissioners in 1770, and occupied as a county jail until 1848.

Educational Affairs.—Three churches were established during this period, being by the Friends, Lutheran and Reformed.

The Protestant Episcopal and Roman Catholic had no churches, but held religious services in the homes of certain members. Secular education was carried on in schools which were connected with the churches and also in several private schools. The pupils paid their teachers several cents a day. The Friends' school at Washington and Wood (Madison) streets was conducted for English education, the other schools were mostly for German education. There were no newspapers published at Reading then. The *Pennsylvania Gazette* and *Sauer's Journal* had a very limited circulation.

Nationality of Inhabitants.—The first inhabitants of Reading were mostly Germans. There were some English, and men of this nationality served as county officers through the influence and direction of the Penns until the Revolution; then men of the German nationality came to fill them and they have almost entirely continued to do so until now. This change was brought about by the determined action of the Germans in behalf of independence and representative government, the English having favored the British government and discouraged the Revolution, on which account they were called "Tories."

French and Indian War.—The French and Indian War affected Reading more or less from 1755 to 1762. The inhabitants were excited and frequently alarmed for their safety during 1755, 1756 and 1757. But the Indians in their incursions never reached Reading. They confined their stealthy attacks and barbarous cruelties to the settlements along the Blue mountains.

Conrad Weiser

The prominent men from Reading who were actively engaged in defensive operations were Conrad Weiser, Edward

Biddle and George Nagel. In 1756, a company of grenadiers was stationed here for a time; also a company commanded by Conrad Weiser, consisting of 2 sergeants and 28 privates. A number of interesting letters were sent from Reading during these years, describing the dangerous situation of affairs. No person from Reading was killed.

Revolution.—The first public action at Reading in behalf of the Revolution was taken with much spirit on July 2, 1774, and

from that time until the declaration of peace in 1783, the residents displayed remarkable zeal for political independence and representative government. On the day named, a public meeting was held in the court house, and appropriate resolutions were adopted, expressing sympathy with Boston and urging such measures as would settle with precision the rights and liberties of America. Delegates were appointed to attend the different conferences and earnest co-operation was manifested at all times for carrying on the war successfully.

Nagel's Company at Cambridge.—In April, 1775, the people of the town raised two companies of infantry, and one of them, commanded by Captain George Nagel, several months afterward, marched to Cambridge and participated in the campaign at that place. Numerous other companies were raised in response to repeated calls for troops. Altogether over 7800 men were furnished by Berks county who were in actual service. And great quantities of supplies were forwarded to the government, amounting to several hundred thousand dollars.

Store-house for Supplies.—Reading was a prominent inland place for storing supplies of all kinds during the whole period, having been selected by the Board of War for its admirable situation; and prisoners of war were sent here in large numbers. The locality where they were quartered was called "Hessian Camp," after the Hessians taken at Trenton in December, 1776. It was situated to the east of the town, along the Hill road. In 1777, when the British entered Philadelphia, many residents of that city fled to Reading for safety.

Prominent Men.—Reading furnished many men who became very active in the service. Edward Biddle was one of the representatives from Pennsylvania in the First Continental Congress; Bodo Otto and Jonathan Potts were prominent surgeons; Mark Bird, Henry Haller, Nicholas Lotz, Joseph Hiester and Daniel Brodhead were colonels; and George Nagel, John Spohn, Peter Decker, Henry Christ, John Diehl, John Rightmyer and Peter Scull were cap-

tains. Edward Scull was secretary of the Board of War ;



James Read was an Executive Councillor, and Register of the Court of Admiralty ; and Edward Burd was Prothonotary of the Supreme Court.

BOROUGH 1783-1847.

Borough Erected.—The town of Reading was incorporated into a borough on September 12, 1783. It contained over 400 taxables, and about 2100 inhabitants; and it was generally recognized then as the largest and most progressive inland town in the United States. The principal officers were a chief burghess and associate, four assistant burghesses, high constable, treasurer, clerk, two supervisors and two assessors.

Surrounding Towns.—The county of Berks contained about 25,000 population, and the surrounding towns in the county were Womelsdorf, 14 miles west; Hamburg, 18 miles north; Kutztown, 16 miles northeast; Birdsboro, 9 miles southeast; and Morgantown, 15 miles south. Nine-tenths of the inhabitants were German. A newspaper printed in the German language was established in 1789, and a post office in 1793. A daily mail by stage was started in 1793, and continued until 1838, when the railroad was introduced, and increased facilities for transportation were afforded.

Stage Coach.—The stage coach was introduced at Reading in 1789, and ran from Reading to Philadelphia. Afterward, lines were extended in different directions, and they were carried on until the railroads were constructed. The business was very brisk from 1826 to 1838.

Bridges.—A ferry was carried on at the "Ford" from 1783 to 1815, when a covered wooden bridge was constructed by the county commissioners. Another covered wooden bridge was constructed by the officers named at Levan's Ferry at the foot of Bingaman street in 1831. The first bridge across the river near Reading was on the road to Sunbury through Bern township, erected in 1810.

Public Buildings.—The court house continued in Penn square until 1840; and the prison at Fifth and Washington until

1848. The "State House" for the county officers was erected on the northeast corner Fifth street and Penn square in 1791 and was used for this public purpose until 1840. A second market house was erected in West Penn square in 1799. Both market houses were rebuilt in 1846. They had 70 stalls and 116 stands.

Turnpikes.—While the subject of bridges was discussed by the people, another received their attention. It was that of turnpikes. These were extended over prominent highways, one to the north in 1805 called the "Centre," the second to the south-east in 1810 called the "Perkiomen," and the third to the west in 1817, called the "Berks and Dauphin."

Canals.—Two canals, leading from Reading, were constructed, the Schuylkill, extending along the river north to Pottsville and southeast to Philadelphia, in 1822, and the "Union," extending west to Lebanon and Middletown, in 1828. Large quantities of goods, especially coal and lumber, were shipped over these canals. The enterprise was successful through this period, and contributed much towards the development of the borough.

Railroad.—The Philadelphia and Reading railroad was projected along the Schuylkill through Reading from Philadelphia to Pottsville in 1833. It was completed to Reading in 1838, and to Pottsville in 1842, and then became an additional factor with the turnpikes and canals for great local progress.

Banks.—A "Branch" of the Bank of Pennsylvania was established at Reading in 1808, (in the building occupied by the Union Bank,) and carried on successfully until its suspension in 1857. The Farmers' Bank was organized in 1814, and it has been maintained successfully ever since, now over 80 years and in the same building. The Eckerts have been prominently identified with it since 1838. A third bank was organized in 1836, but it continued only eight years. It was called the "Berks County Bank."

Panic of 1837.—A money panic arose in the borough in 1837, owing to a suspension of prominent banks in the large cities, but the local business men published a notice in which they expressed entire confidence in the Reading banks and a willingness to accept their notes in payment of debts and merchandise. But the scarcity of money compelled certain merchants to resort to an expedient for a circulating medium by issuing notes for small sums which were called by the people

“Shinplasters,” “Rag Barons” and “Hickory Leaves.” And the Borough Council, to relieve the community in this behalf, issued loan certificates in denominations of 5, 10, 25 and 50 cents, and 1, 2 and 3 dollars, redeemable August 1, 1838. The whole issue amounted to \$25,000. They were loaned to business men on approved security and subsequently redeemed.

Industrial Affairs.—During this period, industrial affairs became the prominent feature of Reading. The small shops were developed into large factories and mills, and the capital invested in such establishments increased from several hundred dollars to many thousands. The energy of certain influential men was directed chiefly towards the manufacture of iron, and this stimulated various other enterprises, particularly in the line of building operations. The discovery of coal and the application of steam to motive power for operating machinery were the direct causes of this marked improvement, and the canal and railroad were natural results from their introduction and increasing use. The large increase in population must be attributed to them, the growth from 1830 to 1840 having been over 43 per cent. and from 1840 to 1850 over 87 per cent. The country districts of Berks county increased only 21 per cent. during the former decade, and only 19 per cent. during the latter.

Water Company.—In 1821, a water company was organized to supply the people of the borough with water. A reservoir was constructed at the head of Penn street, and the water from “Hampden Spring” was conveyed into it by means of wooden pipes, and thence distributed through the place. In 1833, the investment was estimated at \$25,000, and 250 families were supplied. The spring had a daily flow of 100,000 gallons, and the reservoir had a capacity of 1000 hogsheads. Pumps continued to be used in all parts of the borough.

Lighting.—The light was obtained from tallow candles, also from oil and camphene used in lamps. The streets were not lighted. Public buildings were seldom occupied in the night for meetings or entertainments; and there were no halls.

Fire Companies.—Three fire companies were organized in addition to the Rainbow: Junior in 1813; Reading in 1819; and Neversink in 1829.

Newspapers.—A number of newspapers were started in this period. The first was in 1789. In 1796, there were three others,

the *Reading Herald*, (English); the *Reading Adler*, (German) published until now; and the *Weekly Advertiser*, (English) published until 1816, when the *Berks and Schuylkill Journal*, (English) took its place, which is still issued. The *Reading Courier*, (German) was issued from 1816 to 1826; the *Chronicle of the Times*, (English) from 1826 to 1835; *Berks County Press*, (English) from 1835 to 1865; *Liberal Observer*, (German) from 1839 to 1864; *Reading Gazette and Democrat*, (English) from 1840 to 1878, when the *Reading Weekly Eagle* was substituted in its place, and this has been published until now; *Old Berks*, (German) from 1840 to 1848, when it was transferred to Pottsville and the name changed to *Pottsville Adler*. Several others were started but they had a short existence. The spirit for writing and publishing during this period was very strong. The editors exhibited much courage in ventilating their opinions on political and social topics.

Churches and Schools.—Besides the three denominations mentioned in the first period, the Roman Catholics and Protestant Episcopalians came to erect churches in the second period, and also the Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, Universalists and English Lutherans. Schools were carried on successfully as before until 1835 when the public system was introduced, and in 1838 the first public school buildings were erected.

Street Names.—Upon the laying out of the town, the streets were named as follows:

(*East and West*,)—Penn, extending through the centre of the town; north of Penn, Thomas and Margaret; and south of Penn, Richard and Hamilton. (*North and South*,)—King, Queen, Callowhill, Prince, Duke, Earl, Clement, Lord and Vigour.

These names were changed by the Borough Council on August 6, 1833, and those substituted were as follows, Penn having been retained:

(*North of Penn*,)—Liberty, Washington and Walnut. (*South of Penn*,)—Cherry, Franklin and Chestnut. (*Across Penn*,)—Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh; and what had been called for a time Bridge and Treat, were changed to Front and Second.

On October 18, 1845, Council named the following alleys extending north from Liberty:—Pear, Thorn, Rose, Ash,

Church, Reed, Poplar, Cedar, Moss, and Black; and south from Cherry:—Oak, Apple, Carpenter, Wood, Pear, Plum, Lemon, Peach, Orange and Maple. Laurel and Willow streets were also named then. Bingaman street took its name and diagonal direction from the northerly line of the patent to Peter Bingaman; that part beyond Tenth street having been vacated by an Act of Assembly, passed May 8, 1850.

In 1832, the streets were graded according to regulation by Enoch Lewis, under the direction of Council.

Early Exhibitions.—Exhibitions were given at Reading at an early day. Reference to some will be made to show their character.

In January, 1799, a man named Salanca gave a “curious exhibition” in Barr’s ballroom, consisting of legerdemain performances by himself, tricks by a learned dog and a display of fireworks. Tickets for adults, 50 cents; for children, 25 cents.

In June, 1808, an elephant 8 years old and 7 feet high, was exhibited at the public-house of Daniel Feger; advertised as the *only elephant then in the country*. Admission, 25 cents.

On August 1, 1815, a whale was exhibited at the public-house of William Jones, weight, 5000 pounds. Admission, 12½ cents; children, half price. This whale was caught in the Delaware river at Trenton, on November 11, 1814.

In November, 1813, Purdy, Carley & Bailey exhibited a menagerie of 30 living wild animals, including a lion and lioness, Arabian camels (male and female), llamas (male and female), hyena, kangaroo, tiger, leopard and panther.

In December, 1838, William Paulin, accompanied by a lady, ascended from Reading in a balloon named “Comet,” and in the following year he made two successful ascensions.

Circuses gave numerous exhibitions and they were well patronized, and traveling dramatic troupes visited Reading, remaining a week at a time.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

John Penn’s Visit.—John Penn arrived at Reading on April 7, 1788, while on his way from Philadelphia to Harrisburg. He remained two days and expressed himself as much pleased with the town. He stayed at Witman’s tavern, southeast corner Fifth and Franklin streets, and he regarded the accommoda-

tions as worthy of a respectable country town. He dined heartily on cat-fish, which were plentiful in the river. The next day, he dined with James Biddle, Esq. A number of citizens called to pay their respects. He came here to look after his property. On April 9th, he visited General Thomas Mifflin on the latter's farm (now Alms House) and took breakfast and dinner with the family. After dinner, he proceeded on his way.

Washington's Visit.—President Washington visited Reading on October 1, 1794, while on his way from Philadelphia to Carlisle during the Whiskey Insurrection. His presence caused much social excitement. During his sojourn, he stayed at the Federal Inn where many people called to pay their respects. A military parade was given under the command of Col. Nicholas Lotz, (who had taken an active part in the Revolution,) to signalize the occasion, and the distinguished visitor reviewed the troops. The "Reading Volunteers," (a company of militia,) escorted him on the way, and at Carlisle they were retained as his body guard.

When Washington died in 1799, all the people mourned his loss. The newspapers were printed with heavy black borders; and the people of the borough, to demonstrate in a public manner their great sorrow for his death and great reverence for his name, held funeral services in Trinity Lutheran church on Sunday, January 5, 1800. A procession was solemnly formed on Penn square, and a great concourse of people, under the lead of the militia of the borough, marched to the church.

Van Buren's Visit.—The President of the United States, Martin Van Buren, visited Reading on Tuesday, June 25, 1839, while on his way from Harrisburg to Easton. A special committee met him at Womelsdorf. Many citizens from different parts of the county formed a procession on the turnpike some distance west of the Harrisburg bridge, and joined the committee in escorting the distinguished visitor to Reading. He was pleased to receive such an expressive welcome from the thriving town on the Schuylkill, which three years before had given him a strong political support, nearly four to one against Gen. W. H. Harrison. The procession paraded through the principal streets. The president rode on a fine cream-colored horse, and his graceful horsemanship attracted general attention.

He sojourned at Herr's hotel. During the evening a reception was held at the residence of Samuel Bell, Esq., where many citizens assembled to show him honor. He left for Easton via Kutztown on the following morning, a number of prominent citizens having accompanied him as far as Kutztown. In the previous year he paid a high compliment to the borough by selecting Hon. Henry A. Muhlenberg to be the first minister plenipotentiary to Austria.

Scott's Visit.—Gen. Winfield Scott visited Reading on Saturday, May 21, 1842, during a great "Military Encampment" comprising 14 companies of militia from Berks, Lehigh and Schuylkill counties, of which four were from Reading, numbering 157 men. He was accompanied by his aids. They were met at the railroad station (Seventh and Chestnut streets) by a detachment of militia, and escorted to Herr's hotel, where they were cordially welcomed and properly entertained. Many citizens followed the parade. On Monday (23rd,) he reviewed the troops, and left on the next day for Danville, to review a similar encampment. During the day, medals were awarded for skillful shooting. General Scott was much pleased with the discipline and appearance of the encampment; and he paid a special compliment to the Reading Artillerists. The encampment was held on Penn Common. It was the first in Reading.

Liberty Poles of 1799.—During the administration of President Adams, Congress caused a direct tax to be levied upon houses. This was objectionable to many persons. In Eastern Pennsylvania an insurrection arose in 1799, and liberty poles were erected to declare the feeling of opposition. A number of them were erected at and near Reading. While a company of soldiers were on their way through Reading to Bucks county, several of these poles were cut down, and the conduct of the soldiers was severely criticised by an editorial in the *Adler*. When the company reached Reading on its way to Lancaster, the Captain got to hear of this criticism, and he demanded the name of the author. It was refused, and the proprietor (Jacob Schneider) was taken to Penn square and publicly flogged.

English War of 1812-15.—After the Revolution, the British government conducted itself in an offensive manner persistently until the complaints became too loud and the inju-

ries too grievous to be endured any longer, when President Madison made them subjects for his message to Congress on June 1, 1812, and a declaration of war was issued. Berks county supplied twelve organized companies in response to the call for troops. The companies of Capt. Thomas Moore and Capt. Daniel deB. Keim were composed entirely of men from Reading; and the greater part of the men in the companies of Capt. Jacob Marshall and Capt. George Marx were also from Reading. The companies left in August, 1814, and performed military duty at York, Pa., but they did not participate in any engagements with the enemy. Some of the men remained four months, and others six months. Peace was concluded December 24, 1814. When the event was made known at Reading, the citizens signaled it by shooting off cannon during the day and by a grand illumination at night, in which 1600 pounds of candles were consumed.

During the war when the British approached Philadelphia, a number of English families who lived there were compelled to move away at least 50 miles, and on that account they came to Reading. This was in August, 1814.

Mexican War.—War between the United States and Mexico was declared in May, 1846. The chief burgess, William Betz, presided at a public meeting, held on May 20th, at which the government was sustained. Three companies of men from Reading tendered their services, and one of them was accepted, the Reading Artillerists, commanded by Capt. Thomas P. Leoser. This company left on December 26th for Mexico, and participated in the following battles: Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, Chapultepec and Belen Gate. They returned July 29, 1848, and were given a brilliant reception.

REVIEW OF READING IN 1847.

Reading was incorporated into a city on March 16, 1847. At that time it was in a flourishing state. Shops, factories and stores were numerous. The population numbered about 12,000. The tendency of local development was to the south of Penn street and to the west of Ninth. At that time there were thirteen churches, seven to the north of Penn, and six to the south.

The railroad deserves especial mention. A decade had not fully elapsed since its introduction, yet it demonstrated to a

remarkable degree its power in accelerating the growth of everything. Another railroad had been projected in 1836 to extend westward to Harrisburg, but it was not as yet begun. The canals and stages occupied a prominent position. The former consisted of two lines, the "Schuylkill" and "Union," and the latter of three lines, to Easton, Harrisburg and Lancaster.

A prominent social movement was then perceptible. This was the secret society and though first started in 1794, it had not begun to make a marked impression till towards the close of the second period of Reading. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was particularly active. As a beneficial organization, it extended its branches in various directions with remarkable earnestness and success.

The fire company was active. Four volunteer companies were conducted successfully, (Rainbow, Junior, Reading and Neversink,) partly through pecuniary assistance from the municipal government, but mainly from the spontaneous efforts of their members.

The system of common-school education was actively conducted, there being 17 schools, 31 teachers and 2064 scholars. Five newspapers were published successfully. Advertising was a prominent feature in all of them. The political sentiment of the inhabitants was favorable to the Whigs in local affairs, but to the Democrats in state and national.

The public markets were largely attended. The market men came regularly twice a week, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Councils had proposed no improvement beyond the advantages first afforded in 1766, and rents were still collected.

The semi-annual fairs were kept up. Dancing, drinking and fighting were conspicuous features. The militia spirit maintained its activity; and exercise was carried on annually in May, which was known as "battalion day."

Most of the people were domestic in their daily life. Gardening was carried on either in lots, upon which the dwellings stood, or in out-lots. Fruit trees were numerous, and plums, peaches, cherries and apples were plentiful. "Preserving" fruit was common, not "canning" as now. And nearly every family boiled apple butter in an open fire place in the fall of the year. Home-made sausage, pudding, scrapple, hams and mince

were in every household. About Christmas time the cellars of housekeepers were well stocked.

The fuel for domestic purposes in cooking and heating was almost wholly wood, and this was consumed in a "ten-plate" stove; and sawing of cord-wood by hand was a common occupation. Coal had been known to the community for nearly forty years, but it was not used for domestic purposes, its consumption having been principally in public places, shops and factories.

The light was produced from fluid, oil and tallow, even common fat, the first two having been used in stores, and the last two in dwellings, especially of the poorer classes of inhabitants. The streets were not lighted up in the evening. Lanterns were carried to shed light upon the roadway. There were no "street crossings." The customs of the residents had not yet come to convert night into day for amusements of various kinds. Dramatic entertainments were just starting out, and the demands for an improved light were gradually growing greater.

The town was not large. The principal portion lay between Walnut street on the north and Chestnut on the south; Ninth street on the east and Third on the west. Business of all kinds was done almost entirely during the day-time, and merchants derived their chief support from the farmers. Two constables were watchmen of the night, and for several hours before and after midnight they called out the hour and the condition of the weather in a monotonous, low tone of voice.

The pump was used throughout the place, notwithstanding the general supply of superior water afforded by the Reading Water Co. It was convenient in every block, if not on or near every street corner. At least 100 pumps were in daily use. Penn street was especially well supplied. Ice had come to be furnished in small quantities for about ten years, but not for drinking purposes.

CITY—1847 TO 1897.

The events that transpired in the succeeding fifty years, after the incorporation of Reading as a city, were so numerous that a narration of them must be necessarily brief to bring them within the limits of this compilation. They will be mentioned by decades in the order of their occurrence as near as possible, referring the reader to other parts of this volume for a more extended description of them.

1847-57.—During the decade from 1847 to 1857, business affairs grew more active, and continued to do so till towards the close when a panic ensued. Gas was introduced for lighting purposes in 1848. The first large hall was erected by the Odd Fellows in 1847, which provided a meeting place for the society and accommodations for the public in respect to entertainments. The Charles Evans Cemetery was founded in 1848; the Trinity Lutheran and Roman Catholic cemeteries on the northern slope of Mt. Neversink were laid out in 1849; and the Aulenbach cemetery in 1851. Interments were then made in these cemeteries; and the remains of many buried persons, in graveyards in the central parts of the city, were transferred to them. Numerous buildings were erected, both dwellings and industrial establishments, the latter including prominent enterprises which have been continued until now.

Two railroads were constructed in 1857, the "East Penn" to the northeast, and the "Lebanon Valley" to the west. The militia system was active and battalion days were devoted to military exercise. In 1856, there was a battalion comprising 6 companies with 539 men enrolled. The fair days at the market-houses passed away without regret from any one, and in 1852, an agricultural society began holding a county fair for an improved annual exhibition of goods, live-stock, etc. An exciting topic at this time was the discovery of gold in California, and several parties went there from Reading, but their discouraging letters dispelled the charm, and the excitement subsided. Various political questions agitated the people, and one of them, that of slavery, caused the presidential campaign of 1856 to be particularly enthusiastic.

A public high-school was established in 1852, and the taxpayers realized the promises of its projectors in affording advanced education to such as attended the common schools. The greatest freshet in the Schuylkill valley occurred in 1850, and the people of Reading suffered damages estimated at more than \$500,000. Both bridges were swept away. The flood rose to a point 25 feet above the ordinary level of the river. On January 8, 1854, the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company machine shops on Seventh between Franklin and Chestnut streets were destroyed by fire, causing a loss of \$50,000, which was the most destructive fire at Reading until that time;

and on April 20, 1857, the roof of the same shop broke down for a space of 40 by 180 feet by reason of a great fall of snow on the day before (Sunday) followed by rain, this happening while 300 workmen were underneath, all of whom escaped unhurt.

1857-67.—In the decade from 1857 to 1867, the Civil War was the most engrossing subject which engaged the attention of the people. Many companies of men were enlisted here, and the excitement on many occasions was intense. The people of the city supported the government devotedly and liberally in its great efforts to suppress the Rebellion. In 1863, houses were numbered by Councils by an admirable system through the efforts of Jacob Knabb, postmaster, to facilitate and dispatch the delivery of letters. The streets were regulated by a topographical survey from 1864 to 1867, and the fixing of lines and grades encouraged building operations, especially in the northern section of the city. The water-works were purchased by Councils in 1865. Efforts were made to improve the city charter by amendments in 1861 and 1864.

The Firemen's Union was organized in 1861. The co-education of boys and girls in the high-school was started in 1859, and all the wards were consolidated into one district for school purposes in 1864. The people were active and energetic in every department of life, and the wealth of the community was increased millions of dollars. Weekly newspapers became more thoroughly circulated, and the daily newspaper was successfully established in 1858. Postal facilities were increased to the great convenience of the people; and another railroad was extended to the southwest in 1864, affording direct communication with Lancaster and Columbia. Political excitement reached the highest point which the community was able to bear without resulting in a public disturbance.

1867-77.—In the third decade from 1867 to 1877, general enterprise was very active in the beginning and continued so for several years, but then it began to decline and finally showed marked effects from the financial panic which prevailed throughout the country. Great fires at Chicago in 1871, and at Boston in 1872, destroyed much property, resulting in losses amounting to more than \$200,000,000, and a large proportion had to be paid by fire insurance companies, located in different parts of the country, which caused great embarrassment. It

seemed that some evil genius hovered over this community also, because there were many acts of incendiarism in the most populous parts of the city about that time, but the volunteer fire companies by their vigilance prevented serious losses.

In 1872, two steam fire engines were added to the fire department, and in 1873 the electric fire alarm system was introduced, which immediately demonstrated its great value. The old market-houses were removed in 1871, and private buildings for market purposes were substituted. The limits of the city were extended northward in 1871, increasing the area to more than 3200 acres. A large modern hall for amusements was erected in 1872 on the north side of east Penn square, which afforded increased opportunities for witnessing dramatic and operatic performances. The postal card was introduced in 1873, and the business of the post office was largely increased. The P. & R. R. Co. erected a large and commodious "Union Station" at the junction of its several lines of railroad, which was opened for travel on August 3, 1874.

The general Act of 1874, for the government of cities of the third class—which included Reading—was accepted; the water of Antietam creek was appropriated by the city and a storage reservoir was constructed in Alsace township with a capacity for 30,000,000 gallons. Railroad communication was extended by completing the road to Wilmington to the south, and to Slatington to the north; and the street railway was introduced along Penn and Sixth streets. The "Centennial Exhibition" at Philadelphia was a prominent subject for several years, especially from May 10th to November 10th, 1876; and the display of productions by Reading manufacturers and of educational work by the Reading School District was highly complimented. The management of the schools by the first city superintendent, elected in 1867, proved very successful, and during the decade ten large brick buildings were erected.

In October, 1869, there was an unusual freshet, the river rising twenty-three feet and inflicting damages to the shops along the river amounting to \$50,000. On Sunday, June 26, 1870, the P. & R. R. Co. car shops at Sixth and Oley streets (168 by 710 ft.) were destroyed by fire, causing a loss of more than \$100,000; and on January 16, 1872, there was another large and costly fire at Fifth and Penn streets, which destroyed

Stichter's hardware store, Ebner's building, old "State House," and other buildings on Fifth street, resulting in a loss exceeding \$100,000. The store was rebuilt in thirty days by Joseph L. Stichter—a circumstance commented upon for many years. The building and savings associations were in a flourishing condition.

The political sentiment of the people manifested a great change, and the process of changing from the Democratic party to the Republican by 1876 had developed a high degree of excitement, the election returns of that year causing the loudest demonstrations ever witnessed at Reading. Enterprise reached out in different branches of industry, giving employment to a largely increased number of mechanics and laborers. Merchants showed a high appreciation of the value of advertising in local newspapers, and as they attracted the residents to their stores, the Philadelphia merchants did the same to theirs by advertising their goods in the Reading newspapers.

1877-1887.—The fourth decade from 1877 to 1887 went far in advance of the previous decades in public affairs, private enterprises and social amusements. It started with a serious disturbance on account of the labor question, which culminated in a riot on July 23, 1877, causing the death of ten persons, and the wounding of thirty-nine, and the loss of the large bridge across the Schuylkill on the Lebanon Valley railroad. The riot took place at Seventh and Penn streets. The strike was general, extending through Pennsylvania and other States. In the previous decade, allusion was made to the panic, but it did not seriously affect Reading. However, conditions generally grew worse and on November 18, 1877, the Reading Savings bank, Bushong's bank, and Dime Savings bank suspended, which caused the greatest financial excitement that Reading ever felt, and the day is still recalled as "Black Friday."

An earnest beginning for a city park was made in 1878, by cleaning up and improving the triangular part of the Common which adjoined Perkiomen avenue and Hill road, this having been done by tax-payers in the vicinity who raised over \$6000 by voluntary contributions, and in 1884, Councils instituted legal steps to recover that part of the common which had been occupied by the Berks County Agricultural Society since 1852, and they were successful. The co-education of boys and girls was

found unsatisfactory, and in 1881, after a trial of 22 years, they were separated, the girls remaining in the high-school building. In 1883 the commodious Boys' High School was erected, and then the school controllers transferred their meeting place and offices to it. In that year, the county bridges at Reading were declared free, and electric power began to be supplied for shops and factories.

The water works were much enlarged in 1880 and 1884, increasing the storage over 50,000,000 gallons. The building and savings associations were in a flourishing condition, 25 having been kept up whose payments and investments ran into millions of dollars. Societies of all kinds were very active, particularly secret, beneficial and social, numbering altogether 150, and their membership including almost every man of age in the community. Factories of all kinds were carried on extensively, especially for hats, stoves, cigars and building materials. And one of the most important events in the decade was the construction of the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley railroad in 1884, and the direct connection with the Pennsylvania railroad system thereby afforded.

1887-1897.—The closing decade of the city from 1887 to 1897 was the most active of all the decades in every department of life. The progress was remarkable, and it exceeded everything in the previous history of the place. The supply of water was largely increased by the introduction of the water from the Maiden creek; Penn Common was improved year after year until it came to be the most attractive spot within the limits of the city; the school buildings were increased in number and improved in character, and so were the church buildings, the moneys appropriated and collected for these two purposes surpassing all previous efforts; the U. S. government supplied a superior building for post office purposes; the subject of streets and sewers was agitated for a long while with apparently little progress in behalf of these public improvements, but it prevailed eventually, and the years 1896 and 1897 became notable, a million dollars having been expended in their construction; public demonstrations, parades, excursions, and conventions were unusual in number and character, which developed the reputation of Reading as a place of industry, substantial wealth and superior advantages to a remarkable degree.

The street railway system was extended very much and the mountain roads were established. The application of electricity as a motive power for running the street cars was applied to the cars on the East Reading line of street railway in 1890, and it was extended to all the lines in the city in 1893.

Industrial establishments for various articles were erected, especially for steel, hosiery and bicycles, affording employment to several thousand additional persons and yielding to the community over a million dollars in wages. Conduits began to be laid for under-ground wires by the Pennsylvania Telephone Company. The greatest fires in the history of the city occurred, the losses reaching a million dollars, three worthy of special mention being the Carpenter Steel Mill, Reading Hardware Works, and Sternbergh Nut and Bolt Works; and the city was visited by the greatest storm in 1889, having demolished the silk mill and part of the East Penn railroad shop, killing 22 persons and injuring more than 100.

Civil War.—The Civil War in the United States was carried on from 1861 to 1865. It was caused by the attempt of seven Southern states to secede from the Union, on account of the



CAPT. JAMES MCKNIGHT.

election of Abraham Lincoln as president by the Republican party, whose political platform was resolved against slavery. After an attack had been made upon Fort Sumter at Charleston, S. C., on April 12th, by certain Confederates, President Lincoln made a requisition for troops on April 15th, to which there was a quick and earnest response by the Northern states. The first company to respond was the Ringgold Light Artillery, a superior company at Reading, under the command of Capt. James McKnight. This was on April 16, 1861. The feeling here for preserving the Union, from that time until the close of the

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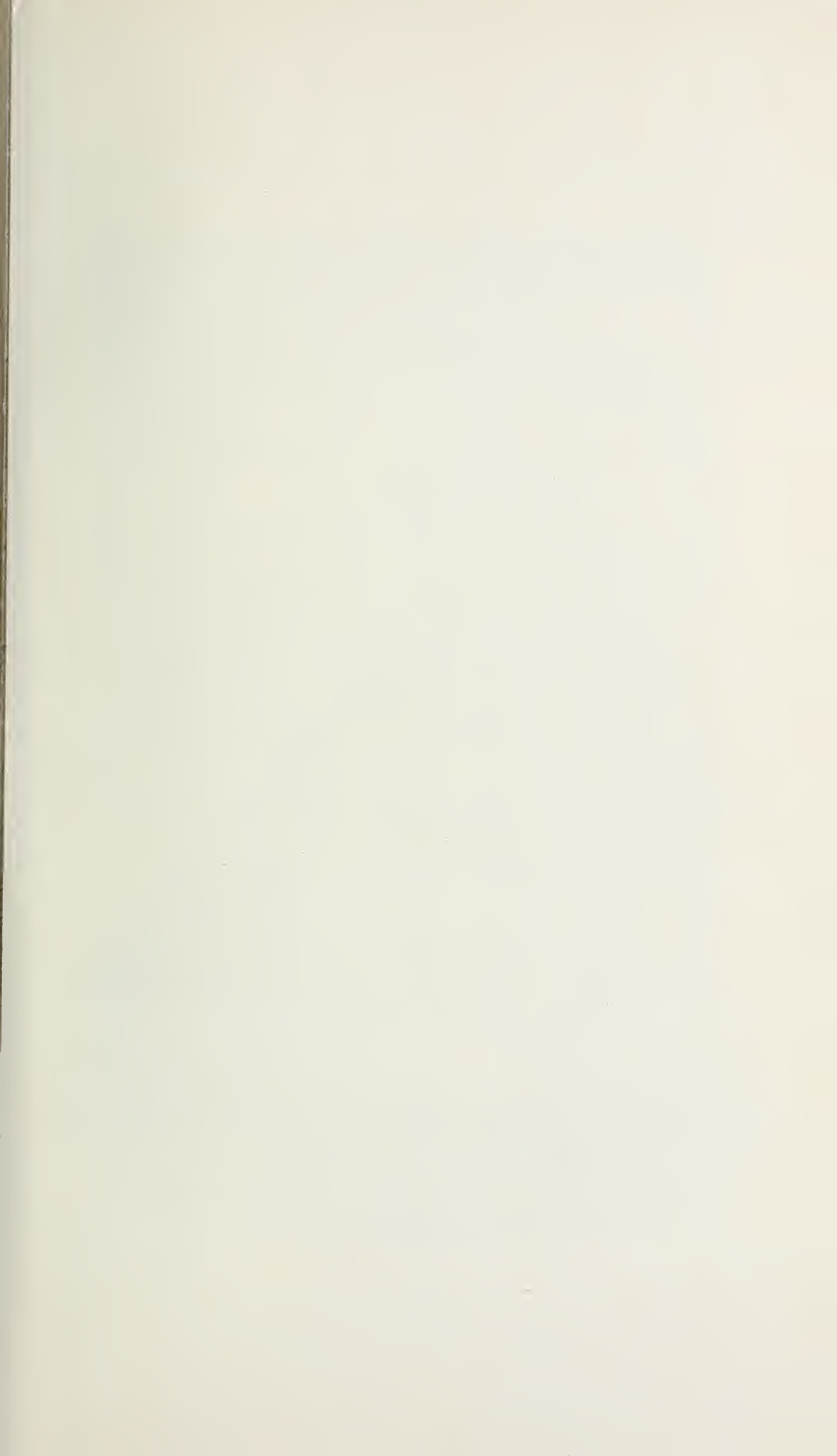
war, was strong and continuous, the people of Reading doing their whole duty, both in furnishing men and appropriating money.

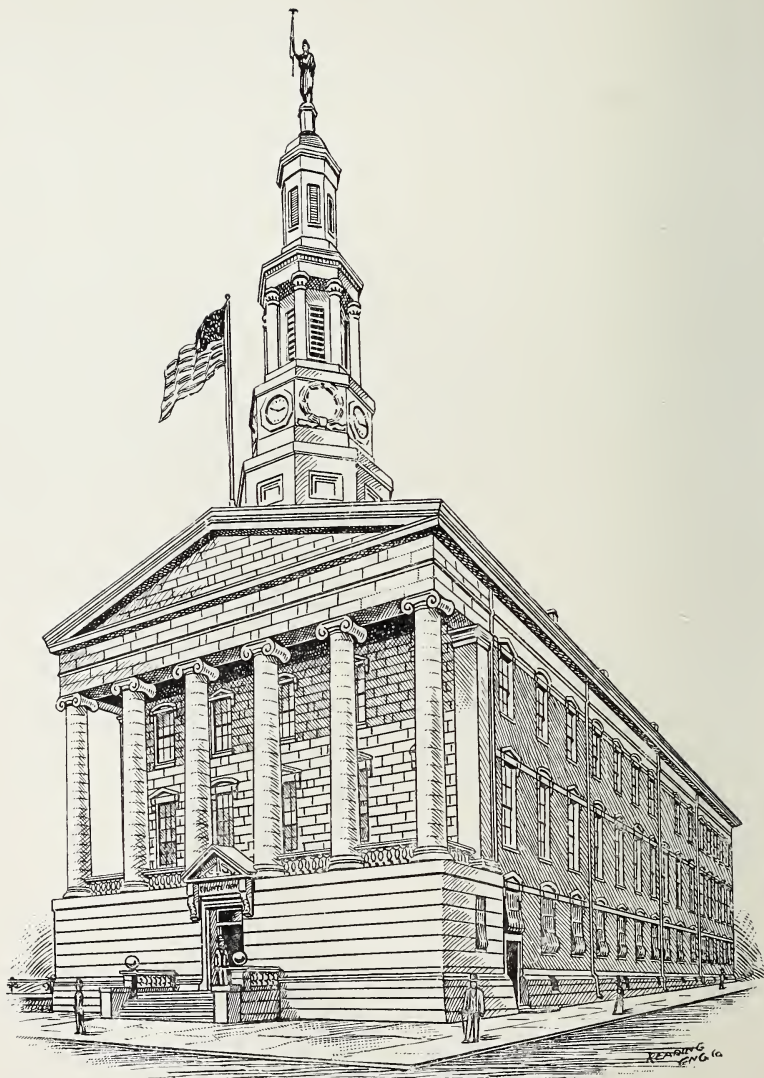
In answer to the first call for troops for three months, Reading supplied six companies and two bands of music. The names of the captains were James McKnight, Henry Nagle, George W. Alexander, Frank M. Cooley, Albert F. Rightmyer and David A. Griffith (three of them surviving until now, Rightmyer, Alexander and Griffith) and the bands were the "Ringgold," whose leader was John A. Hock, and the "City," whose leader was E. Ermentrout, the former having kept up its organization until the present time. Subsequently, until the close of the war, Reading supplied about 40 additional companies. Altogether it is estimated that the city furnished about 4000 men for the service, and appropriated for purposes of carrying on the war about \$375,000. The people of Reading can point to their record of patriotism during this trying ordeal with a great deal of local and personal pride.

PART II.—INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

The internal improvements comprise those buildings and constructions of a public nature, whether paid for by the government or by private individuals and corporations. The following comprise those that have contributed to the general welfare, whose total cost to the community and to the projectors amounts to many millions of dollars.

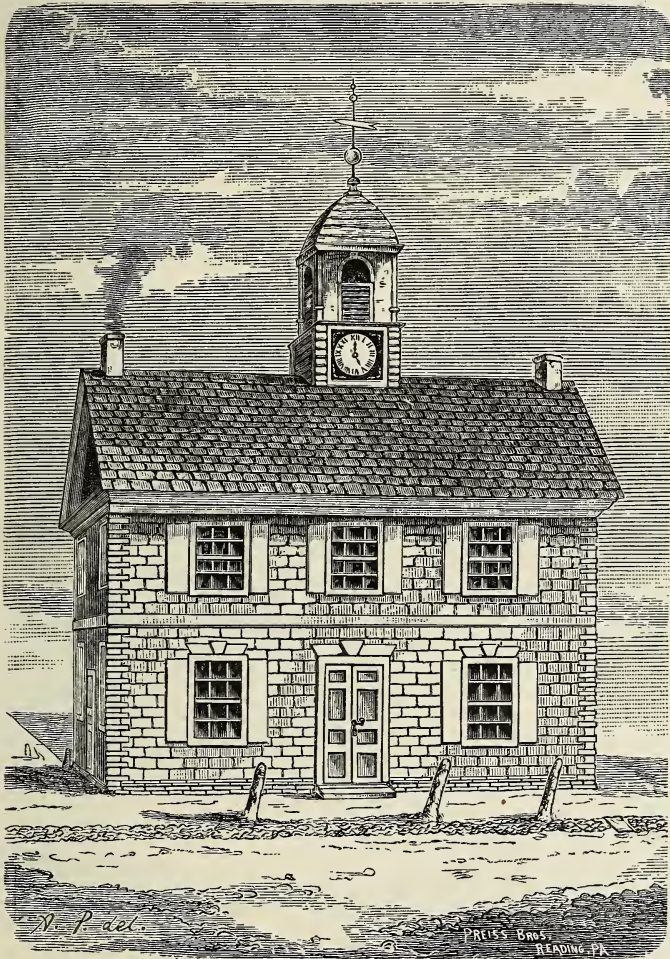
Court House.—The court house was the first public edifice at Reading. It was a two-story stone building, erected in 1762, in the centre of Penn square, and there it remained until 1841. The first story was in one room and set apart for the courts; the second in three rooms for jury purposes. Public elections were held in it until 1840. For ten years previous to 1762, the sessions of court were held in a room at some tavern of the town. The present court house, three-story brick structure, was erected in 1838-1840, at a cost of \$59,000. Upon its completion, the courts were held there, and the county officers took possession of rooms provided for them respectively, in which to transact the public business and place the records. Additions





COURT HOUSE.

were made in 1869 and 1888. The steeple is 142 feet high. The wooden figure on the top representing "Justice" was taken



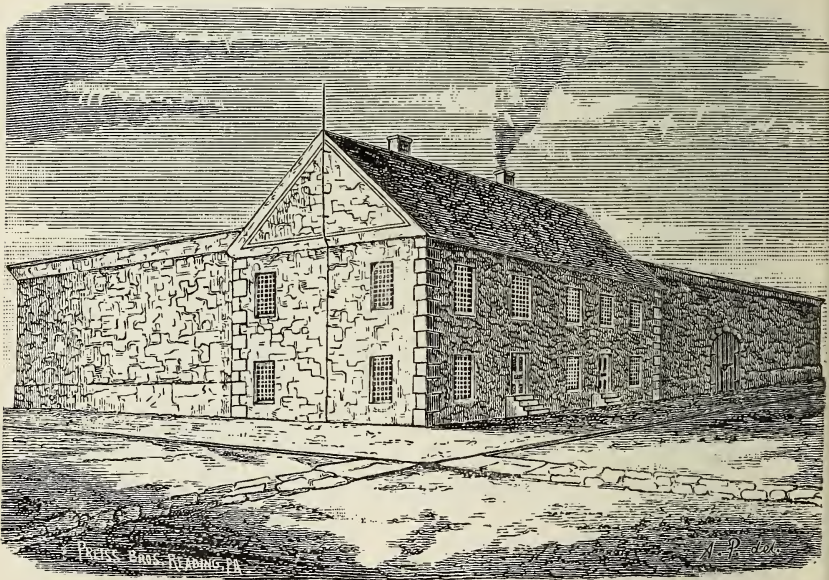
COURT HOUSE—1762-1840.

down in 1897, and the bronze figure representing "Liberty" was substituted.

Market Houses.—In 1766, the Penns granted a charter to the town for holding semi-weekly markets; also semi-annual fairs on June 4th, and October 27th; and then a market-house was

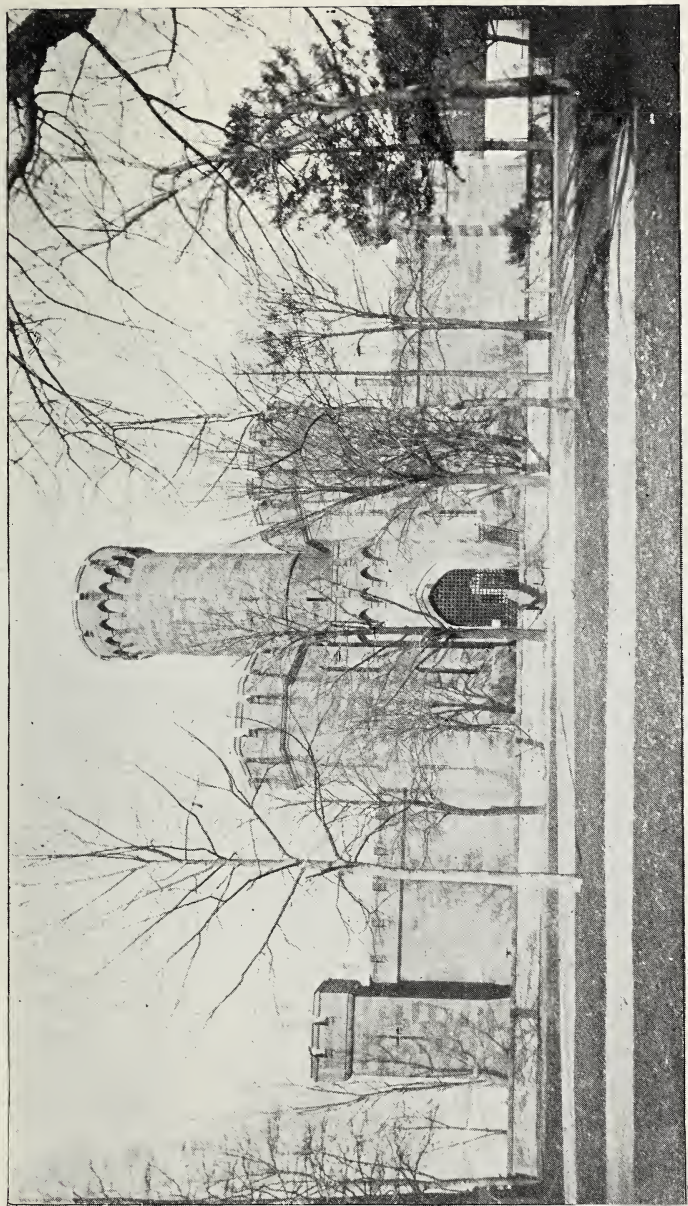
erected in East Penn square. It was a building about 120 feet long and 20 feet wide, consisting of a double row of square brick pillars, covered by a double-pitched shingle roof, and contained 32 stalls. A similar building was erected in West Penn square in 1799, which contained 38 stalls. They were rebuilt in 1846 with iron columns and paved extensions for increased accommodations at a cost of \$6400, and abandoned in 1871, when they were sold and removed. The semi-annual fairs were discontinued in 1852, when the Berks County Agricultural Society was organized to give annual exhibitions in their stead.

County Prison.—The first county prison was erected in 1770, on the northeast corner of Fifth and Washington streets. It



COUNTY PRISON—1770-1848.

was a two-story stone building, plastered, and used for confining prisoners until 1848. The sheriff occupied part of it with his family. The second floor was set apart for prisoners, having been arranged in four compartments. This building is still standing, though much altered. The present substantial and attractive stone structure on Penn Common was erected in 1847-48, and, upon its completion, the prison was removed into

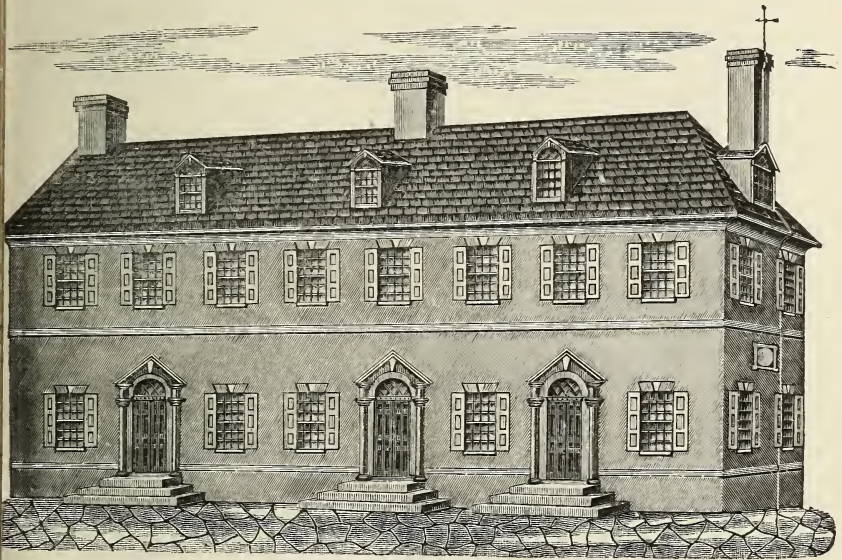


BERKS COUNTY PRISON, 1848-1893.



it. The management was transferred to a board of elected inspectors, which has continued until now. A two-story stone addition was built at the north end in 1869. The total number of cells is 94, arranged in two stories.

State House.—A two-story brick building was erected by the County Commissioners in 1793, on the northeast corner of Fifth



STATE HOUSE—COUNTY OFFICES, 1793-1840.

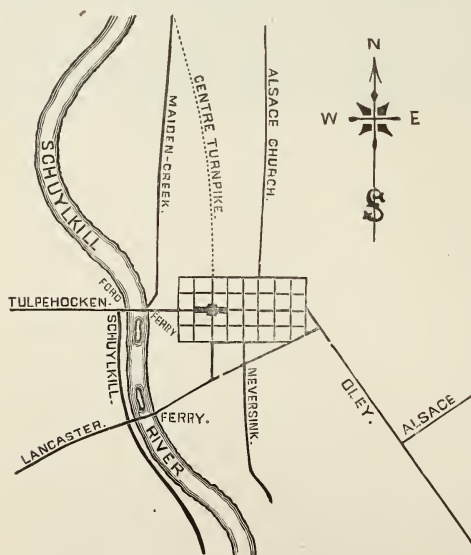
street and Penn square, for the county officials and the county records and papers. It was used for this purpose until 1840, when it was sold. The second story front room was occupied as a hall for various purposes.

Water Works.—The inhabitants were supplied with water from wells and cisterns until 1821. The first pump at Reading was erected in East Penn square in 1750 by direction of the Penns, and, when the market-house was built in 1766, this pump occupied a position in the centre. The well was 53 feet deep and the water was of a superior limestone character. It was abandoned in 1871, when the market house was removed.

In 1821, a water company was formed to supply the inhabitants with water, and then a reservoir was constructed at the head of Penn street with a storage capacity of 100,000 hogs-

heads. In 1865, the city purchased the plant for \$300,000. The sources of supply then were Hampden spring, Edelman spring and Bernhart creek. The supply was largely increased by introducing the water of Antietam creek in 1874, and of Maiden creek in 1889, the former flowing by gravity through large iron pipes about three miles to the city line, and the latter being forced through similar pipes about four miles to the city line by two Worthington pumps, one of which has a daily capacity of 5,000,000 gallons and the other 10,000,000. Total net cost of water supply to April 1, 1897, \$1,684,600; debt \$532,500, less sinking fund \$37,770. Total storage capacity 181,532,000 gallons; daily possible supply 15,000,000 gallons; average daily consumption, 6,000,000 gallons. Total quantity received for year 1896-97, 2,204,742,987 gallons, and consumed 2,197,457,160 gallons. Supply is from six sources, which, with *per centum*, is as follows:—Antietam, 43.7; Bernhart, 28.2; Maiden creek, 24.4; Edelman, 2.4; Hampden 1.; and Hampden drift, .3.

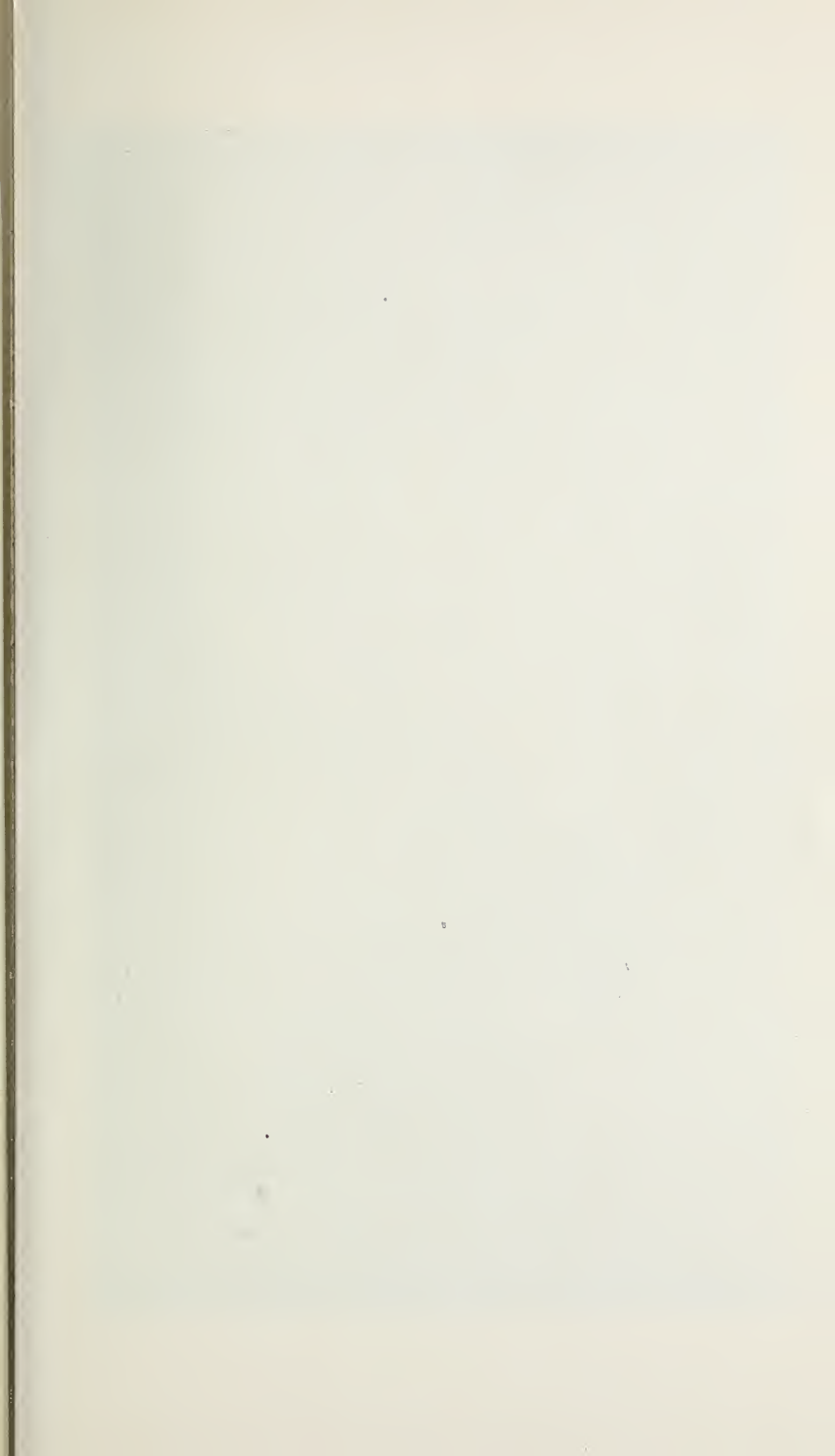
Public Roads.—The public roads figured prominently in connection with Reading from the beginning of its history. The



EARLY ROADS FROM READING.

ford at the Schuylkill was a central point from which they were extended in various directions. When the town was laid out, there were regular highways; north to the mouth of the Maiden creek, almost in a straight line for six miles; north-east through Alsace; south-east through Exeter to Philadelphia; south-west through Cumru to Lancaster; and west through Cumru and

Heidelberg, also in a straight line, to Lebanon. And afterward





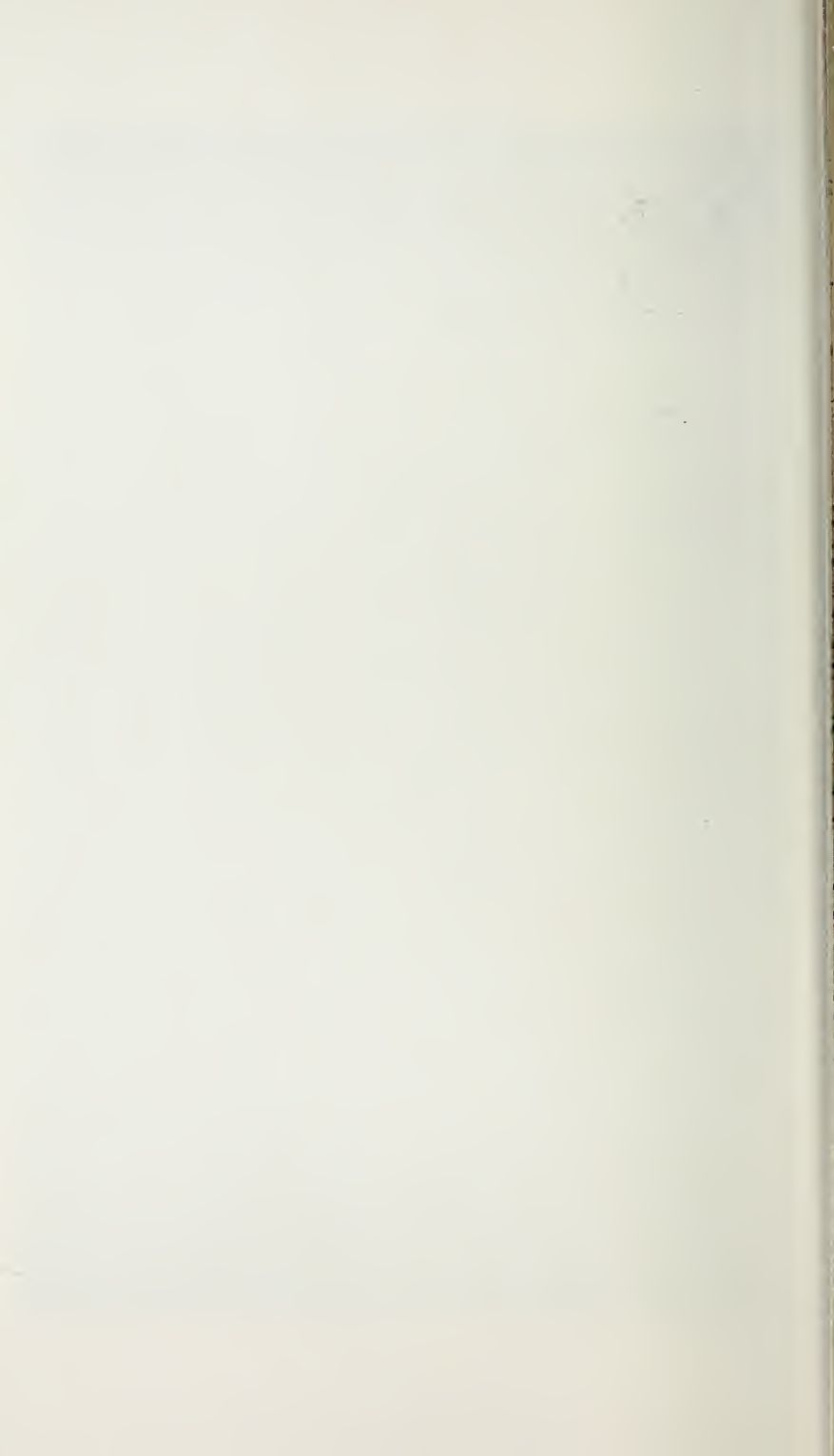
VIEW OF READING RESERVOIR, LOOKING NORTH.

R-E-6



VIEW OF READING RESERVOIR, LOOKING SOUTH.

R-E-6



others were established to facilitate travel from Reading to the different sections of the county.

Streets.—The streets were established when the town was laid out, and the personal and royal names given to them by the proprietaries were continued until changed by the Borough Council in 1833. The numeral system was then substituted for the streets running north and south; and those running east and west, excepting Penn, Washington and Franklin, were named after trees, and those subsequently laid out, after the townships of the county. They are at right angles with one another. Some of them, however, run at an oblique angle, the most prominent being Bingaman street, Perkiomen, Centre and Schuylkill avenues. The total number of miles of projected streets is 135; of which 77 miles are open for public use.

The first grading of the streets was made in 1832. A topographical survey was made by Samuel M. Rea from 1864 to 1868. The plans, in eleven sections, are on file in the Quarter Sessions' office of Berks county. In 1863, the system of numbering the houses along the streets was adopted by Councils, allowing 100 for each square from Front street eastward, and also for each square north and south of Penn street. This was effected by Jacob Knabb while postmaster, to facilitate and dispatch the delivery of letters, having had numerous petitions signed by the citizens recommending it.

After considering for a long while the subject of permanent street improvements, Councils eventually, in 1882, purchased a steam road-roller, weighing 15 tons, and began a gradual improvement of the streets in the interior sections of Reading by macadamizing the surface, and they kept at it year after year until 1897, spending annually about \$25,000. This not proving satisfactory, they then determined to lay sheet asphaltum, and during that year expended over \$120,000 on Penn street and Perkiomen avenue from Front street to Thirteenth, and on south Fifth street from Penn to Pine

Location of City.—The lines, enclosing the plan of Reading, form an irregular figure, about 3 miles long and $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles wide; and the tract contains about 4000 acres. The eastern boundary line is along the base of Mt. Penn, and the western along the west bank of the Schuylkill, the latter being nearly 5 miles long. The greater part of the area has a gentle declination

westward from Mt. Penn to the river and affords superior drainage. The river at the foot of Penn street is 190 feet above the level of the sea; the railroad at Seventh and Penn streets, 265 feet; Penn street reservoir, 345 feet; top of Mt. Penn, 1110 feet, and top of Mt. Neversink, 800 feet. The territory to the northward comprises the Schuylkill valley, and that to the westward the Lebanon valley. The view from Mt. Penn is very picturesque, and that from Mt. Neversink on the south is equally so. They overlook about 800 square miles of rolling farming country.

Sewers.—In 1893, the West system of house sewers was adopted by Councils. The city was divided into eight districts, and numbers 1 and 2 were constructed at the cost of the abutting property holders. The pumping station was erected at the foot of Sixth street at a cost of \$105,000; and the disposal plant $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles below Reading along the west bank of the river at a cost of \$130,000, which was paid by the city without increasing the tax rate. The sewage is purified to 99 per cent. Work is now being done on No. 3 district. The cost of the three districts will amount to \$200,000.

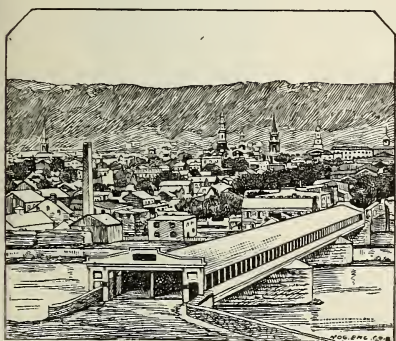
The first storm water sewer was constructed gradually in small sections from the foot of Court street to Buttonwood, to Eighth, to Walnut, and to Eleventh, the beginning having been made forty years ago. The Bassett system was adopted by Councils in 1888. In 1897, the North Reading sewer was made out of concrete, in oval shape, starting at Eleventh and Douglass, and ending at the river near the Carpenter Steel Works, a distance of two miles. The dimension at the east end begins at 5 feet and ends at the west end at 14 feet. The depth below the surface varies from 10 to 25 feet. It is now the largest and longest concrete sewer in America. The total cost was over \$200,000, paid mostly by a loan granted by a vote of the electors.

Ferries and Bridges.—The ford was used in crossing the Schuylkill for many years; then a ferry was introduced to facilitate passage to and fro. In 1795, the first steps were taken to establish a bridge at this point; and repeated and persistent efforts were made by legislation, lottery schemes, and county appropriations for twenty years before this great improvement was accomplished. A roofed wooden structure became passable

in 1815; and it was finally completed in 1818. The cost was \$50,000. It took the name of "Harrisburg Bridge" from the public road to Harrisburg. There was also a ferry at the foot of Bingham street. The first privilege was granted by the Penns to a man named Levan, and it was continued until a roofed wooden bridge was erected in 1831, at a cost of \$10,000. It took the name of "Lancaster Bridge," being on the road to Lancaster.

Toll was charged at both bridges until 1883, when they were declared free. The subject of free bridges had been agitated as

early as 1821, and in 1848 a special effort was made in this behalf, but without success, because the County Commissioners alleged that the expenses exceeded the income by nearly \$30,000. In 1882, the City Councils took the matter in hand, and by application to Court, the purpose was at last accomplished March 28, 1883,



PENN STREET (HARRISBURG) BRIDGE.

after the community had struggled with it for 60 years.

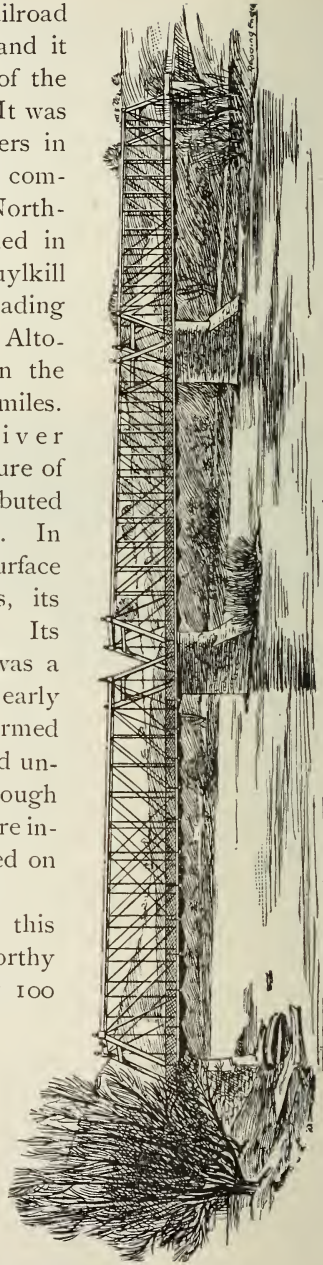
Both bridges were swept away by the great freshet of 1850, and immediately rebuilt. In 1876, the latter was destroyed by fire, and an iron structure was erected in its stead, which was the first large iron bridge in the county. And in 1884, a superior iron bridge was erected in place of the former at a cost of \$100,000.

The first bridge across the Schuylkill in this vicinity was "Kissinger's." It was on the road to Sunbury through Bern township. An Act was passed in 1810, authorizing Ulrich Kissinger to erect and maintain a toll bridge at that point where this road crossed the river, and he then put up a chain bridge in two spans. A covered wooden bridge was substituted in 1830. This was also swept away by the freshet of 1850, and rebuilt. It was known for many years as "Bushong's," and last as "Ahrens'." The Schuylkill avenue bridge near by was erected by the County Commissioners in 1893 to take its place.

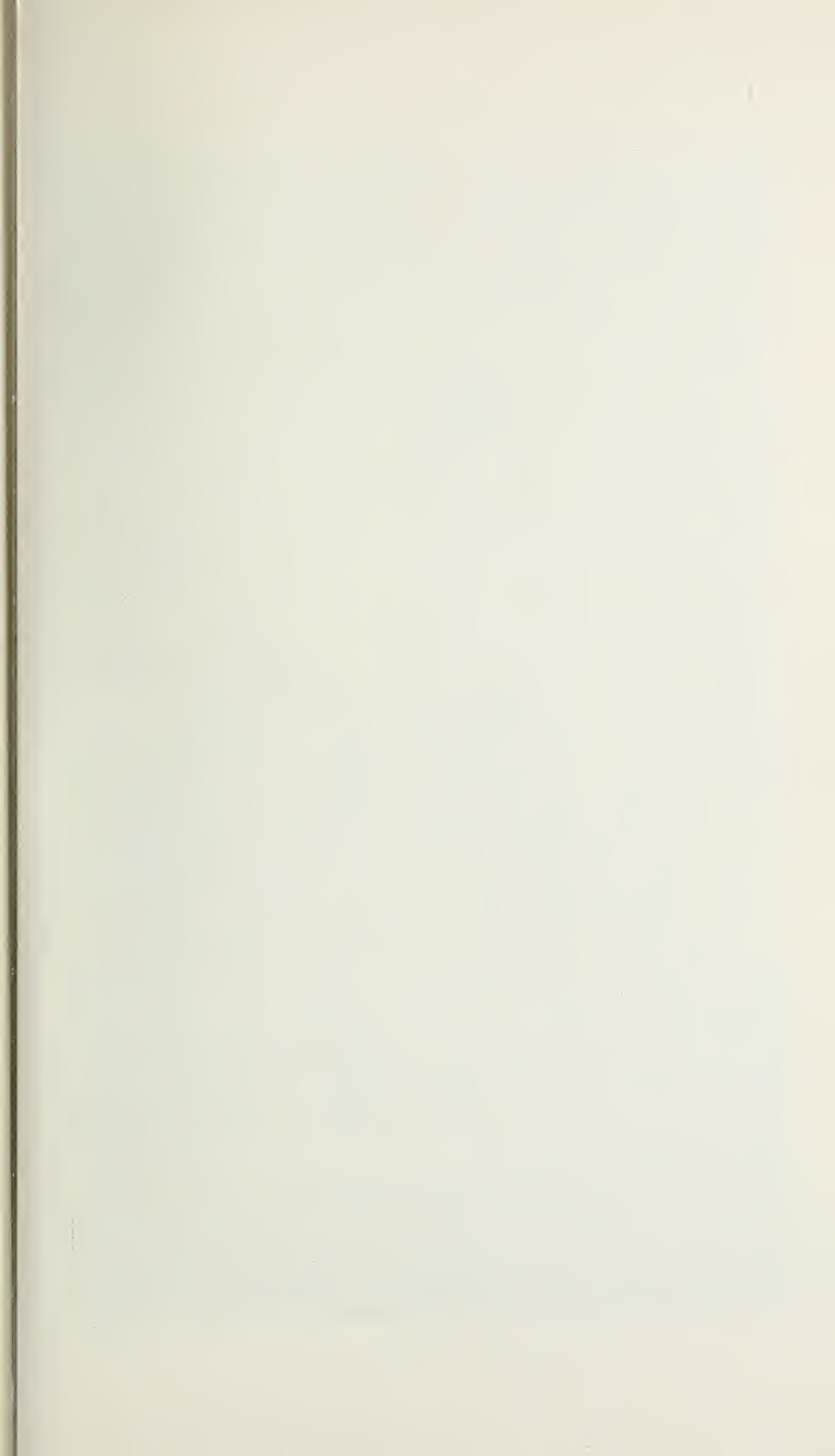
The Lebanon Valley railroad bridge was erected in 1857, and it was then regarded as one of the finest structures in the State. It was destroyed by fire by the rioters in July, 1877, and rebuilt by the company. The Wilmington and Northern railroad bridge was erected in 1874; the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley in 1884; and the Reading and Southwestern in 1891. Altogether seven fine bridges span the river within a distance of three miles.

Schuylkill River.—The river Schuylkill is a prominent feature of Reading, and has always contributed many advantages to the place. In respect to carrying away the surface drainage from all the streets, its value has been incalculable. Its improvement for navigation was a subject for the inhabitants as early as 1807, when a society was formed for this purpose. It was forded until about the time when the borough was erected, then the ferries were introduced, and these were carried on until the two bridges were built.

Freshets.—The freshets of this water-course occupy a noteworthy place in local history for over 100 years. The most important of them occurred in 1757, 1786, 1822, 1839, 1841, 1850, 1862 and 1869. The one which caused the most damage was in 1850, when the water rose 25 feet above its ordinary level, nearly 6 feet higher than the great freshet of 1786.



BINGAMAN STREET (LANCASTER) BRIDGE.





READING POST OFFICE BUILDING.

Fire Company Buildings.—For many years the fire companies owned the buildings in which they kept their apparatus, but when the city began to appropriate liberal sums annually for maintaining them, it became the owner of all, excepting that of the Liberty Fire Company. The buildings number twelve. They are all substantial structures, finely furnished.

City Hall.—There was no separate building for town officials until 1870. A city hall (three-story brick building) was then erected at Fifth and Franklin streets to supply at one place a "lock-up," city offices and council chambers, costing \$26,000. Previously the Councils met in the court house.

Public Parks.—Penn Common was reserved by the Penns for the dwellers of the town when the plan was laid out. But it was not improved for park purposes until 1878; then certain property holders near Eleventh and Penn streets raised over \$6000 by voluntary contributions, and the small triangular portion adjoining Perkiomen avenue and Hill road was enclosed. In 1884, legal proceedings were instituted by Councils to recover possession of the entire tract (50 acres) from the County Commissioners. The Court refused to award a writ of *mandamus* to compel them to execute a deed to the city for the land, but the Supreme Court ordered it to be done, and the transfer was made in 1886. Then Councils established a park commission, and annual appropriations have been made since that time for its improvement. Until 1898, about \$120,000 was expended. Besides Penn Common, the city owns Mineral Spring park, a tract of 47 acres, which has also been beautified by annual appropriations, exceeding \$10,000.

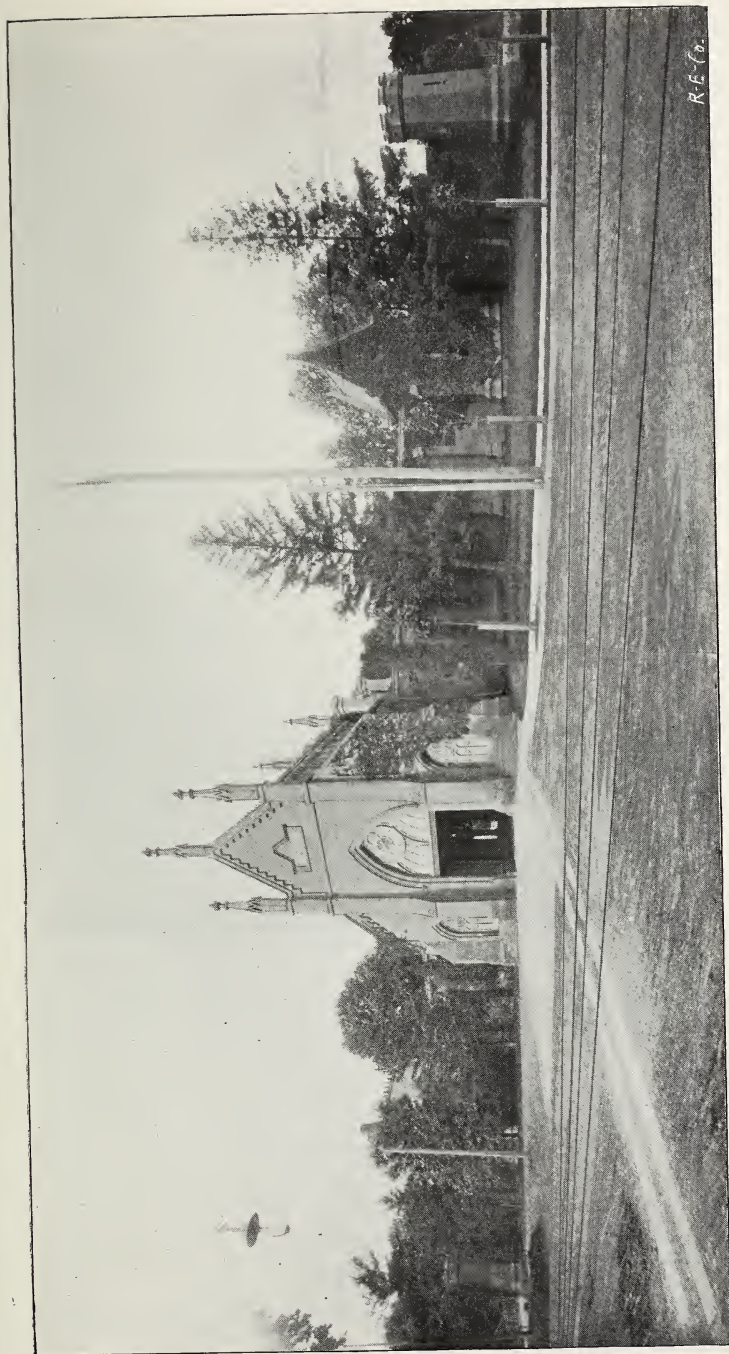
Post Office.—The post office was established at Reading in 1793. Since then there have been seventeen postmasters. The letters were called for until 1835, then they began to be delivered by private enterprise at a cent, and subsequently two cents, a letter. This practice continued until the free delivery system was introduced in 1864. Mail boxes were put up in 1864 for dropping letters to be collected by carriers, and boxes and carriers were increased as demands required. The money order system was introduced in 1864; postal cards in 1873; two-cent postage in 1883; and the special delivery of letters in 1885. In 1897, there were 182 boxes and 35 carriers. In 1887, the U. S. government erected a fine, large building for a permanent post-

office. The department took possession Sept. 16, 1889. The total cost was \$180,000. Present postmaster, J. S. Thompson.

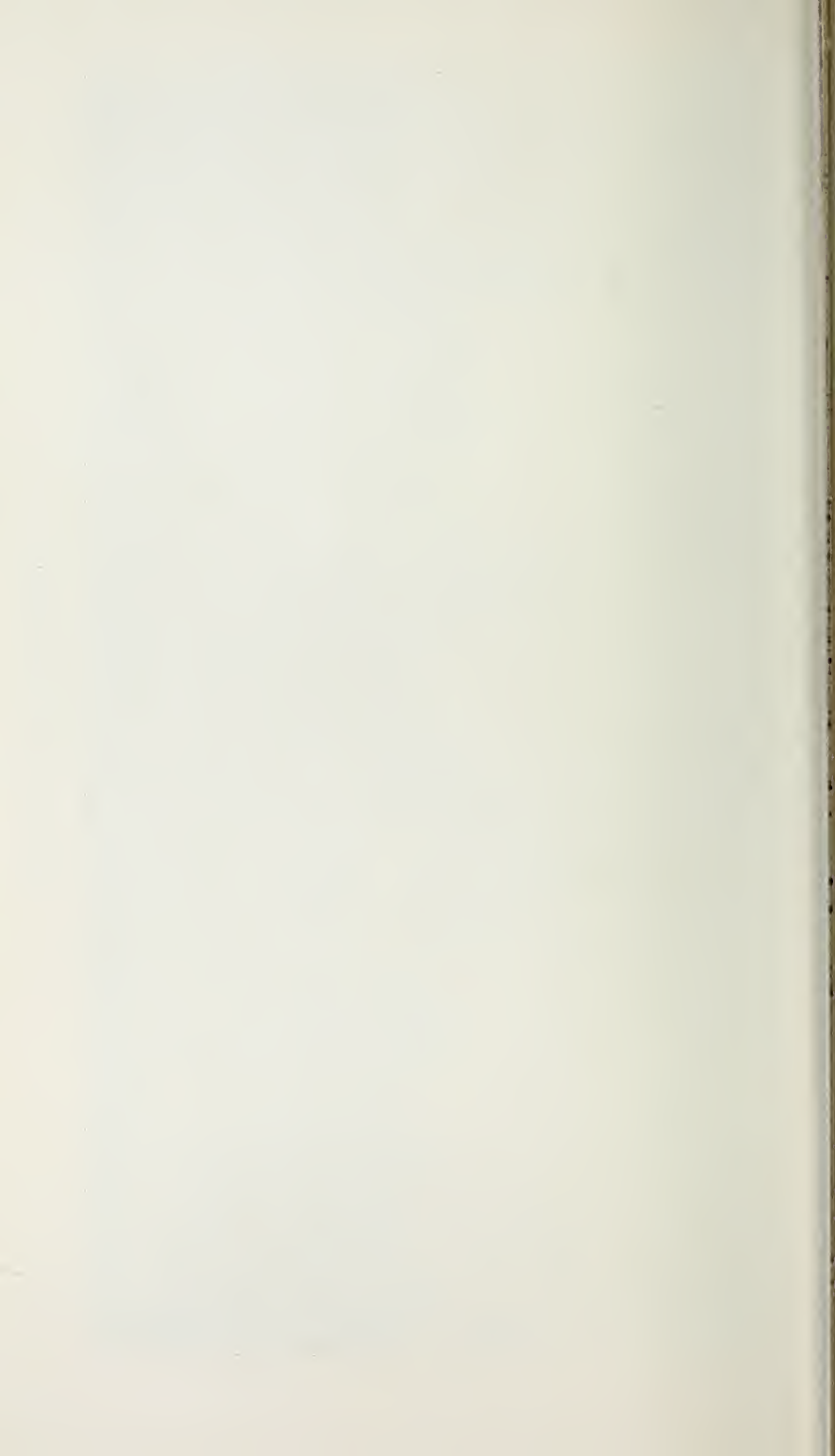
Cemeteries.—From the beginning of Reading until 1846, interments were made in burying grounds which adjoined the several churches; then a cemetery was established by Charles Evans. He was authorized by law to organize a company for its perpetual management, and when this was done he transferred to the "Charles Evans Cemetery Co." a tract of 25 acres in the northern section of the city, with the buildings thereon erected, representing an expenditure of \$84,000. The present area embraces 127 acres, lots laid out number 4982, and those sold 4500; and burials to 1898, 20,300. A fine bronze statue of the founder stands inside, facing the entrance. Many costly monuments have been erected, the most prominent being the "Soldiers' Monument" in granite, and "Christ on the Cross" in Italian marble.

In 1849, two cemeteries were laid out and established on the northern slope of Mt. Neversink, the "Trinity Lutheran" by the congregation of that name, and the "Roman Catholic" by St. Peter's congregation. And in 1851, the "Aulenbach" was laid out along the southeast border of Reading. When these cemeteries were established, burials in them were encouraged, and the remains of numerous persons in the different burying grounds were transferred to them.

Turnpikes.—Turnpikes were projected along the prominent high-ways which extended to the north, to the southeast and to the west of Reading to enable business-men, farmers and travelers to carry on intercourse more quickly with near and distant places. In 1805, the Centre Turnpike Company was incorporated to maintain a turnpike on the road to the north, leading to Sunbury, and before 1812 it was completed. Tolls were collected until 1884, when it was abandoned and the charter forfeited. In 1810, another was incorporated for a turnpike southeast to Perkiomen Mills and Philadelphia; which was completed in 1814, and has been conducted ever since. And in 1805, a third was incorporated for a turnpike west to Harrisburg; which was finished in 1817, and has been conducted until now. Their connection with and value to Reading are not fully appreciated at this time, but for fifty years, from 1810 to 1860, they contrib-



ENTRANCE OF CHARLES EVANS CEMETERY.



uted a great deal towards its prosperity. To the stage business they were indispensable.

Stage-Coaches.—The stage-coach was introduced as the first public conveyance at Reading in 1789 by Martin Hausman. It made weekly trips to and from Philadelphia, distance 51 miles; fare \$2; letters 3d. The round trip was made in two days. William Coleman became the owner of the line in 1791, and from that time for 70 years the Coleman family was prominently identified with the stage enterprise at Reading and in Eastern Pennsylvania. This business was active for a long time, especially from 1810 to 1858; but it was discontinued as the railroads were extended in different directions from Reading. Six stage lines still carry passengers, merchandise and mail as follows:—northwest to Krick's Mill, Bernville and Millersburg; south to Angelica and Terre Hill; east to Boyertown, to Pikeville, and to Shanesville.

Canals.—The canal, as a means of transportation to and from Reading, was started in 1811. It was constructed along the Tulpehocken creek to its source, and thence along the Swatara creek to the Susquehanna river, being finished in 1828. It was known as the Union Canal. The first suggestion of a canal by this route was made by William Penn in 1690, and the first legislation in Pennsylvania in that behalf was enacted in 1791. It was very prosperous for a time, and many boats ran to and fro, carrying lumber, merchandise and passengers, but railroad competition caused it to be abandoned.

The Schuylkill Canal was constructed along the Schuylkill river from Pottsville to Philadelphia, especially for transporting coal. It was begun in 1817 and completed in 1822; and it was successfully carried on for over 50 years. It is now controlled by the P. & R. R. Company but little used.

Steam Railroads.—Railroads were extended in directions to correspond with the public roads; southeast to Philadelphia, 58 miles, in 1838; northwest to Pottsville, 35 miles, in 1842; west to Harrisburg, 54 miles, in 1858; northeast to Allentown, 35 miles, in 1859; southwest to Lancaster, 42 miles, and to Columbia, 46 miles, in 1864; south to Wilmington, 72 miles, in 1874; and north to Slatington, 44 miles, in 1874. The "West Reading" was constructed in 1863, from the "Lebanon Valley" via Third street to and along Canal street to accommodate the

numerous enterprises in the western section of the city. It was operated by the company for 10 years; then transferred to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company.

The P. & R. R. Co. operate all the lines concentrating at Reading, excepting the Wilmington and Northern railroad and the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley railroad. The passenger station was located at Seventh and Chestnut streets from 1838 to 1873, when it was removed to the "Junction" where the Lebanon Valley railroad and East Penn railroad connect with the P. & R. railroad, a commodious two-story brick structure having been erected by the company to accommodate the increasing traffic and facilitate the transfer of passengers and baggage. The volume of business is enormous. [See Chapter II.—P. and R. R. Co. Works.]

The Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley railroad was extended



PENNSYLVANIA SCHUYLKILL VALLEY RAILROAD STATION.

along the Schuylkill river from Philadelphia to Reading in 1884, and to Pottsville in 1885. It is under the control of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. A grand banquet was given to the officials of the company by the Reading Board of Trade at the Mansion House on January 17, 1885, to signalize the open-

ing of the road and the connection of Reading, as a manufacturing centre, with the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. system. During 1897, the company carried nearly 200,000 passengers from and to Reading. The daily passenger trains arriving and departing number 16; freight trains, 7, and coal trains, 14. The employees at Reading number 158. The total number of freight cars handled for the year was over 27,000; the inbound freight received was nearly 120,000 tons, and the outbound nearly 35,000.

Street Railways.—In 1873, a company was organized to maintain a street railway on Sixth street from Canal to Robeson and the cemetery, which was laid in 1874; and in the same year another to maintain a line on Penn street and Perkiomen avenue from Front to Nineteenth, which was also laid in 1874. The former was carried on successfully, but the latter was not, the management having changed several times. Extensions were made as follows; Cotton, Ninth and Tenth, South Third to North Eleventh via Chestnut, Fourth and Walnut, in 1886; Fifth and Bingaman and Eighth in 1888; and Mineral Spring avenue in 1889. The Reading Traction company was organized in 1893, and leased the two lines with extensions; and in that year electricity was applied as a motive power for moving the street cars.

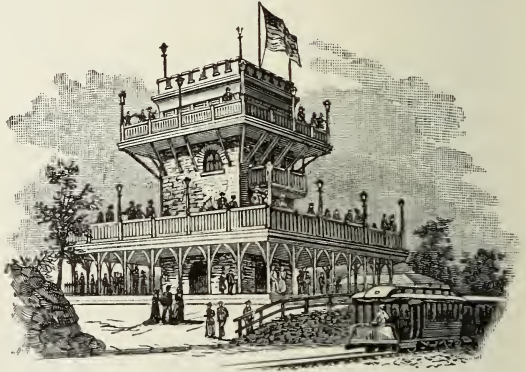
The "East Reading" from Ninth street to the Black Bear Inn and Stony Creek was constructed in 1890, the Reading Electric Light and Power Company supplying electricity to propel the cars. This company was the first at Reading to use electricity for this purpose. The "Reading and Womelsdorf" line was laid in 1894. The Reading and Temple company was organized in 1894, and its track was laid on North Fourth street to Spring and through the northwestern part of the city.

The United Traction company was organized in 1895, and leased all the lines mentioned. It operates 48 miles of track and 85 cars, and employs 225 persons. It carried during 1897, 6,000,000 passengers. Total investment, \$3,500,000.

The Reading and Southwestern Railroad company was organized in 1890, to operate a railway from Third and Penn streets to Mohnsville, and this was constructed in 1891 with an electric power plant to move its cars. A branch was extended to Eleventh and Penn, and to Nineteenth street in 1894, to connect with the Mt.

Penn gravity railroad. In the same year, a steam railroad was constructed from the terminus at Mohnsville to Adamstown.

Mountain Railroads.—In 1889, the Mt. Penn Gravity Railroad Company was organized, and in 1890 constructed a railroad from the east end of the street car lines to the top of Mt. Penn and thence by a circuitous route to the point of beginning, altogether 8 miles long. The cars are drawn to the top $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles by a steam engine, but they descend by gravity $6\frac{2}{3}$ miles. In April, 1898, an electrical equipment was supplied to propel some of the cars by trolley. A



MT. PENN TOWER.

stone tower 50 feet high is at the top. Total elevation, 1200 feet above the sea, and 1000 feet above Reading. The view from this tower embraces an area of territory, 30 miles square. Prominent points can be seen in the six adjoining counties, Montgomery, Chester, Lancaster, Lebanon, Schuylkill and Lehigh. A large pavilion for dancing is connected with the tower; and to the north, near by, there is another for playing ten-pins, shuffle-boards, and billiards. Investment \$150,000; number of cars 9; passengers carried for 1897, 76,000.

The Summit House, a three-story stone building, was erected in 1890, near the tower, by Henry and William Schwartz. The railroad in descending passes four other resorts: "Kuechler's," "Steigerwald's," "Spuhler's," and "Mineral Spring."

The Neversink Mountain Railroad Company was organized in 1889, and in 1890 the company laid a track 8 miles long from Ninth and Penn streets around and across the mountain to Klappertal. It has an investment of \$250,000, operates from three to seven cars, and carries from June to October about 75,000 passengers. Superior views from different points overlook Reading and the surrounding country for many miles.

The railroad affords easy access to five popular resorts: Never-sink Hotel, Centennial Springs Hotel, Highland House, Glen Hotel, and White House. A power-house was erected at the Big Dam at the same time to propel the company's cars with electricity, but it was leased to the Metropolitan Electric Company which now provides the necessary power for the cars. A fine pavilion for dancing was erected by the company along the road, opposite the Highland House.

Telegraph.—In 1844, the telegraph was first introduced to transmit messages by electricity between Washington and Baltimore. In 1847, a company was organized to maintain telegraph lines between Philadelphia, Reading and Pottsville, and in May of that year, the first message was sent to Reading, (this relating to the Mexican war.) It has been maintained since that time along the railroad. As other railroads were constructed in different directions from Reading, it was extended. In 1879, the Western Union Telegraph Company effected an arrangement for co-operation and since that time this has been carried on successfully.

This company has at Reading 40 distinct wires on poles with 100 miles of wire, and transmits and receives about 1000 commercial messages daily, this of course not including the business of the P. & R. R. Co., and newspaper service. In 1847, the operators numbered 3; now they number 35. The office at No. 14 North Sixth street is open day and night. It is supplied with 8 operators, 2 clerks, and 10 messengers who are mounted on bicycles. To accommodate the increasing business, a "duplex" of the largest kind was introduced in 1897 on the direct wire between Reading and New York, by which two messages can be sent over the same wire at the same time in opposite directions. Another is in daily use between Reading and Philadelphia for the exclusive accommodation of the railroad business.

The company operates at this office 55 self-winding synchronizing clocks, distributed in different parts of Reading, and regulated hourly by observatory time from Washington, D. C. In 1897, a large switch-board was introduced to meet the growing demands of the business. The general superintendent, L. Horton, Jr., is located at Reading. A. J. Darlington has been connected with the company since 1865. This telegraph com-

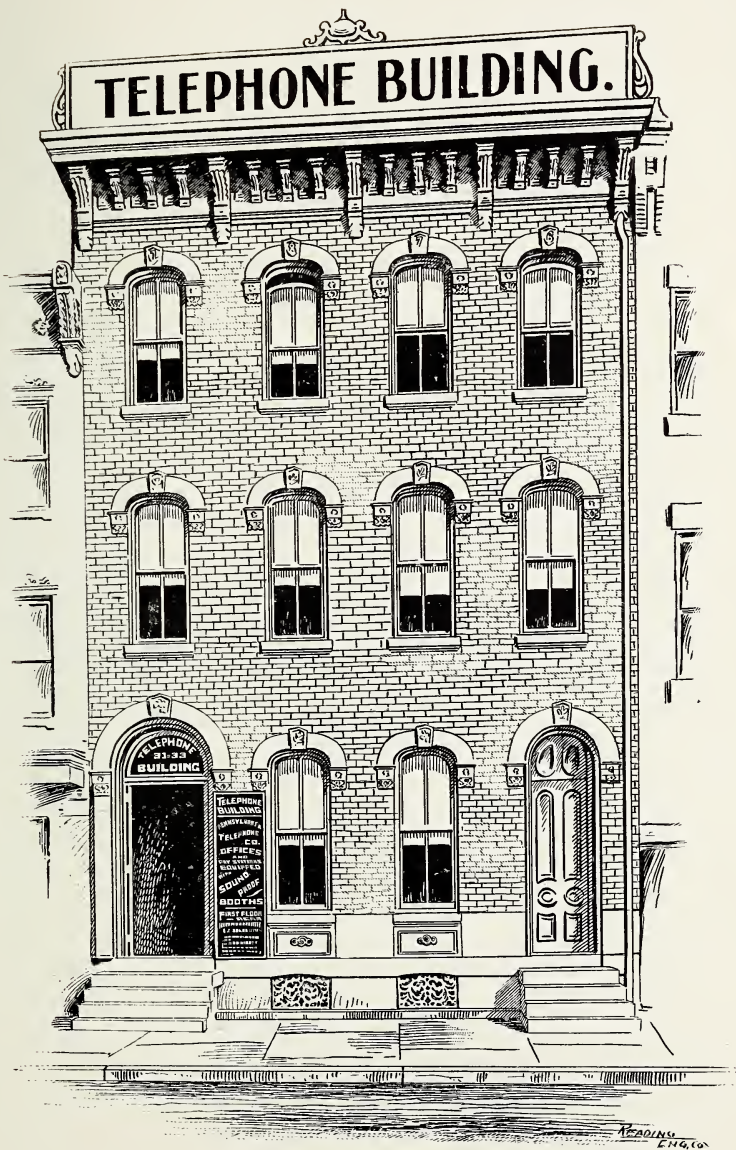
pany enjoys the distinction of being the oldest in continuous service in the United States.

In 1880, the Lehigh Telegraph Company was organized and formed connection with Reading. The line passed through several hands. Now it is known as the Postal Telegraph Cable Company. It has at Reading 20 miles of wire, 3 operators, 6 messengers, and transmits and receives 100,000 messages annually. A. P. H. Saul is the manager at Reading.

Telephone.—The first telephone company in Pennsylvania was organized at Philadelphia in 1878, and in 1879 Henry W. Spang introduced the instrument at Reading. Obtaining from Councils the right to maintain overhead wires, he established an exchange in the Eagle building, Sixth and Penn streets, in October, 1879. He began with 10 instruments and after carrying on the business until January, 1881, he sold it to the East Pennsylvania Telephone Company, a corporation duly authorized to operate and maintain overhead wires in Berks, Schuylkill and Lebanon counties. By that time he had introduced 124 instruments at Reading, 74 at Pottsville, and 23 at Lebanon.

In December, 1882, the Pennsylvania Telephone Company became the owner, and then removed the exchange to the rear of the Keystone Hotel, second floor, (now Hotel Penn.) Owing to increasing business, and requiring larger quarters, it was transferred to the Times building, and afterward to the Pennsylvania Trust Company building, fourth floor, when the service was improved at great expense. By 1895, the wires overhead had become so numerous that the company prepared to put them underground where most numerous in the central part of the city, and, anticipating this undertaking, purchased a property at Nos. 31-33 North Fifth street, altered it to meet the demands of the business and equipped it with the most improved electrical appliances.

During 1895, 1896 and 1897 the first conduits were laid along Fifth, Court, Penn and Cherry streets, together measuring 70,000 feet and containing 1000 miles of copper wire, (there being 8 cables, each comprising 202 wires.) Reading was the third city in Pennsylvania where wires were laid underground, Pittsburg being the first, and Philadelphia the second. The company took possession of its new quarters in February, 1896.



BUILDING OF PENNSYLVANIA TELEPHONE COMPANY.



The exchange is recognized as one of the most complete in the country.

In 1879, the service was conducted on a single iron wire, and the longest distance over which a conversation could be carried on successfully was from 30 to 50 miles, but the introduction of electricity for propelling street cars and for public lighting rendered the telephone service on the single wire system practically useless, thereby threatening the future existence of the company, and the company was therefore obliged, at great expense, to substitute the two-wire system, which necessitated a reconstruction of the whole plant and the use of hard drawn copper wire and of imported superior cedar poles.

The Reading Exchange now comprises 1000 subscribers, 850 being at Reading and 150 in the surrounding districts of Berks county. It is open day and night throughout the year; employs 15 operators and answers from 13,000 to 15,000 calls daily. The entire territory of the company embraces 16 counties (14 in Pennsylvania and 2 in New Jersey,) and to maintain the service in proper condition and to meet the demands for extensions, from 300 to 500 men are constantly employed. The company has altogether nearly 5000 subscribers. The total number of subscribers in all the states reached by the long distance telephone, from the lakes to the gulf of Mexico, and from Maine to Nebraska, is nearly 200,000.

The officers of the company are, Francis Jordan, president; M. A. Buehler, general manager; J. H. Crosman, Jr., secretary and treasurer, with headquarters at Harrisburg; and I. J. Lerch, general superintendent with headquarters at Reading, who has been with the company since its organization, and superintendent since 1888. Gen'l H. S. Huidekoper, ex-postmaster of Philadelphia, one of the directors, has shown great interest in the perfection of the service at Reading by frequently visiting the place.

Gas Light.—The inhabitants of Reading used tallow candles and oil for producing light during the first and second periods of its history. In 1848, the Reading Gas Company was formed for introducing gas, and it supplied many dwellings, stores, shops, and the city government until 1885, when the entire plant was leased to the Consumers' Gas Company. The works are situated at the foot of Fifth street. In 1861, a telescope

gasometer was erected with a capacity for 75,000 feet. In 1873, a distributing telescope gasometer was erected on Elm street near Fourth with a capacity for 360,000 feet. The present total capacity of the gasometers is 500,000 feet. The company has now 55 miles of main pipe, and 6600 consumers. Investment, \$1,100,000; average number of men employed, 60. David Fox was superintendent from 1857 to 1887; and John H. Keppelman has filled this office since 1887.

Electric Light and Power.—In 1883, the Reading Electric Light and Power Company was formed to supply electric light and power to the local government and to private consumers, and then established a plant at Eighth and Cherry streets, where it remained for some years. The company afterward erected a superior power house on south Seventh street near Chestnut, and in 1894 leased the plant to the Metropolitan Electric Company, organized shortly before. The latter company largely increased the plant and equipment. It has in use 13 engines, whose combined horse power is 2875, and the generators have 2242 horse power. It supplies the city with 400 arc lights and 500 incandescent; and private consumers with 100 arc, 200 incandescent arc, and 15,000 incandescent. The total investment is \$650,000. This company supplies all the power necessary for the street car system, excepting the R. & S. W. R. Co.

Halls.—In 1846, the Odd Fellows erected a building on the southwest corner of Fifth and Franklin streets to provide a meeting place for their lodges and also a large hall for amusement purposes. In 1868, they sold it to the Reading Library Company. Several other halls were erected during the succeeding 25 years, the "Keystone" at Sixth and Court, the "Aulenbach" on Penn above Sixth, and "Breneiser's" at Eighth and Penn, having been quite prominent for a time.

Mishler's Academy is worthy of especial mention. It stood on the north side of east Penn square from 1872 to 1886, and was the first large and complete hall in Reading. It was equal to any place of the kind in Pennsylvania. The seating capacity was 1800.

There are numerous halls in Reading for society meetings, but only those for balls and amusements can be mentioned. For balls—Library Hall, 1846; Mænnerchor Hall, 1874; Deppen's Hall, 1884; Rajah Temple, 1892; The Auditorium, 1895; Masonic

Temple, 1897. For amusements—Grand Opera House, 1873; new Academy of Music, 1886. The Y. M. C. A. Hall is mentioned with the associations.

Private Market Houses.—In 1871, three large private market houses were substituted in the place of the public buildings on Penn square:—South Reading, West Reading, and Farmers'. In 1874, two more were erected:—North-east and Keystone; and in 1884, another, Tenth and Chestnut. In 1886, the Keystone market house was converted into the Academy of Music, and the Fifth street market house substituted, having been altered from a skating rink. In 1894, the Tenth and Windsor was erected, and in 1897, the West Buttonwood near Schuylkill avenue. There are now eight in the city. The Farmers' has three annexes and is the largest in Reading, having altogether 414 stalls. The West Reading has the Potteiger Annex.

PART III.—CHURCHES, SCHOOLS AND NEWSPAPERS.

CHURCHES.

Three religious congregations were organized at Reading in 1751, Friends, Lutherans and Reformed, and they then caused churches to be erected. The last two still maintain their churches in the same locality with a large membership. The Roman Catholics began in 1755, and the Protestant Episcopalians in 1763. These and other congregations together have contributed an influence in behalf of the moral and social welfare of the community that cannot be fully measured. The major part of the people of Reading connected with the seventeen denominations, have always been Lutherans and Reformed, these two having twenty-five congregations of the sixty-five organizations, and the Lutheran denomination having the largest number of members.

There are fifteen different religious denominations at Reading which have altogether sixty-two churches. They are arranged in the order of priority, and the year mentioned after each congregation signifies the time when it was organized. Sunday-schools are conducted with the several congregations.

Friends—Orthodox, 1751.

Lutheran.—Trinity, 1751; St Matthew's, 1842; St. James', 1850; St. John's, (German) 1860; St. Luke's, 1868; Grace, 1878; St. Mark's, 1890; St. John's Chapel, 1874; Trinity Chapels, Peace and Hope, 1885; Faith Chapel, 1885, (Woodvale) and Bethany, 1896, (West Reading.)

Reformed—First, 1751; Second, 1848; St. John's, 1871; St. Paul's, 1872; Zion's, (German) 1881; St. Stephen's, 1884; Calvary, 1888; Olivet, 1890; St. Thomas', 1890; St. Andrew's, 1891; St. Mark's, 1891; St. James' (West Reading) 1891; and Faith, 1891.

Roman Catholic—St. Peter's, 1755; St. Paul's, (German) 1860; St. Joseph's, 1887; and St. Mary's, (Polish) 1889

Protestant Episcopal.—Christ's, 1763; St. Barnabas, 1859; and St. Luke's, 1895.

Presbyterian—First, 1811; Washington street, (colored) 1823; and Olivet, 1889

Baptist.—First, 1828; and Berean, 1879.

Methodist Episcopal—Fourth street, 1828; African, 1837; St. Peter's, 1848; Covenant, 1869; Memorial, 1893.

Universalist—Church of our Father, 1830.

Evangelical—Salem, 1844; Immanuel, 1861; Ebenezer, 1870; Home Mission, 1873; St. Matthew's, 1883; Trinity United Mission, 1889; Grace United, 1894; First United, 1895.

United Brethren.—Zion's Church in Christ, 1847; Otterbein, 1867, Faith Chapel, 1885; Salem, 1886; and Boehm, 1891.

Hebrew.—Temple "Oheb Sholom," 1864; and Shomro Habrith, 1888.

Holiness Christians.—Calvary, 1890; and Rescue, 1893.

Disciples of Christ.—First Church, 1897.

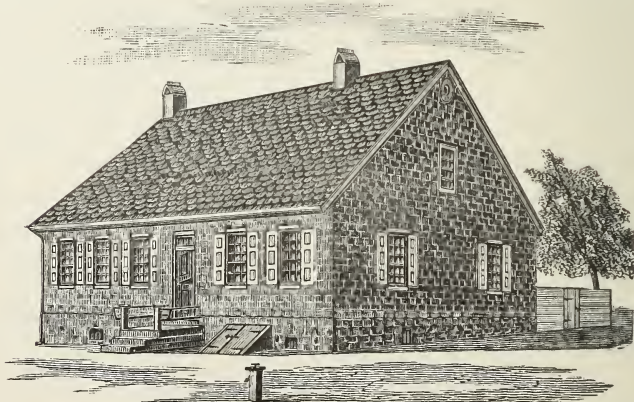
Heavenly Recruits—Beulah Mission, 1894.

Mission of Hope, 1897.

Salvation Army.—English, 1882; German, 1897.

SCHOOLS.

Early Education.—Education was encouraged at Reading from the beginning of its history. It was carried on mostly in

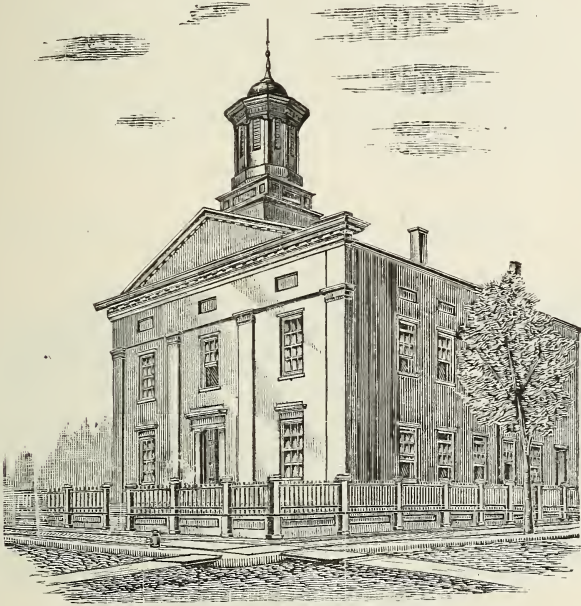


FIRST SCHOOL HOUSE AT READING.

connection with the churches. Two of the earliest teachers connected with the Lutherans, who taught for many years, were

Joseph Fleischer and Paul Fuegner. John Philip Foesig was the teacher with the Reformed for over fifty years, having begun in 1751. The Trinity Lutheran school at Sixth and Washington streets was used for educational purposes for nearly one hundred years, 1765 to 1855.

The Reading Academy was a prominent school for sixty years. It was incorporated in 1788 and given aid by the State.



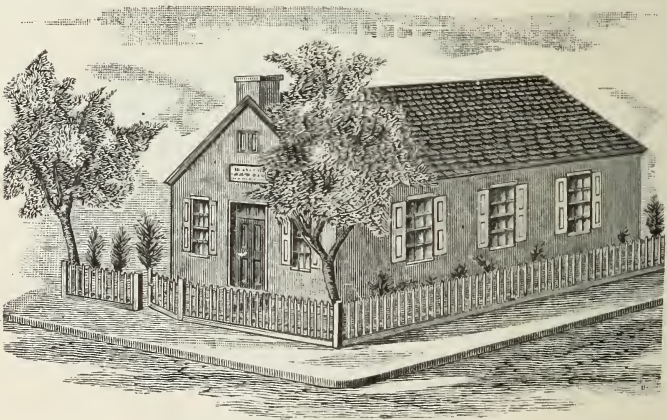
READING ACADEMY 1838-1853.

The building stood on the south-west corner of Seventh and Chestnut streets. The trustees sold it in 1838, and then erected another at Fourth and Court streets, (site of Girls' High School) which was occupied as a private school until 1853, and then as a public high school until 1894.

Common School System.—The Common School system of 1834 was adopted at Reading in 1836. The first directors were, however, elected in 1835. Then there were 17 schools, 17 teachers, and 1439 scholars. The first public school buildings were erected in 1838, four in number. The illustration given on the next page represents the building at Sixth and Walnut streets.

The High School was organized in 1852, and the co-education of boys and girls was carried on from 1857 to 1881. The Boys' High School was erected in 1883 at a cost of \$65,500, and the Girls' (in place of the Reading Academy) in 1895, at a cost of \$110,000.

The revised charter of 1864 for the city consolidated the five wards into one district, under the name of the Reading School District. Each ward became entitled to four controllers, with a term of four years; and two were to be elected alternately every two years. The voters at the biennial elections were to vote for one person, and the two persons having the largest number of votes were declared elected. This provision was made to preserve political equipoise in the board. The first members were elected at the city election in February, 1865.

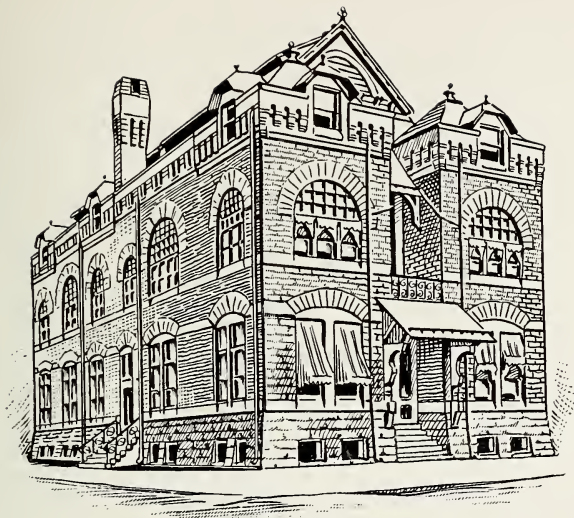


FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOL HOUSE, SIXTH AND WALNUT STREETS.

The city charter of 1874 made provision for school affairs, but it was not accepted. The district is therefore a separate organization. Under the provisions of the Act of 1864, the district is authorized to assess and collect taxes for school purposes. The management of the school affairs by the board since then has been very successful.

A local Normal School was organized in 1852. The City Institute held its first meeting in 1885. The first City Superintendent was elected in 1867.

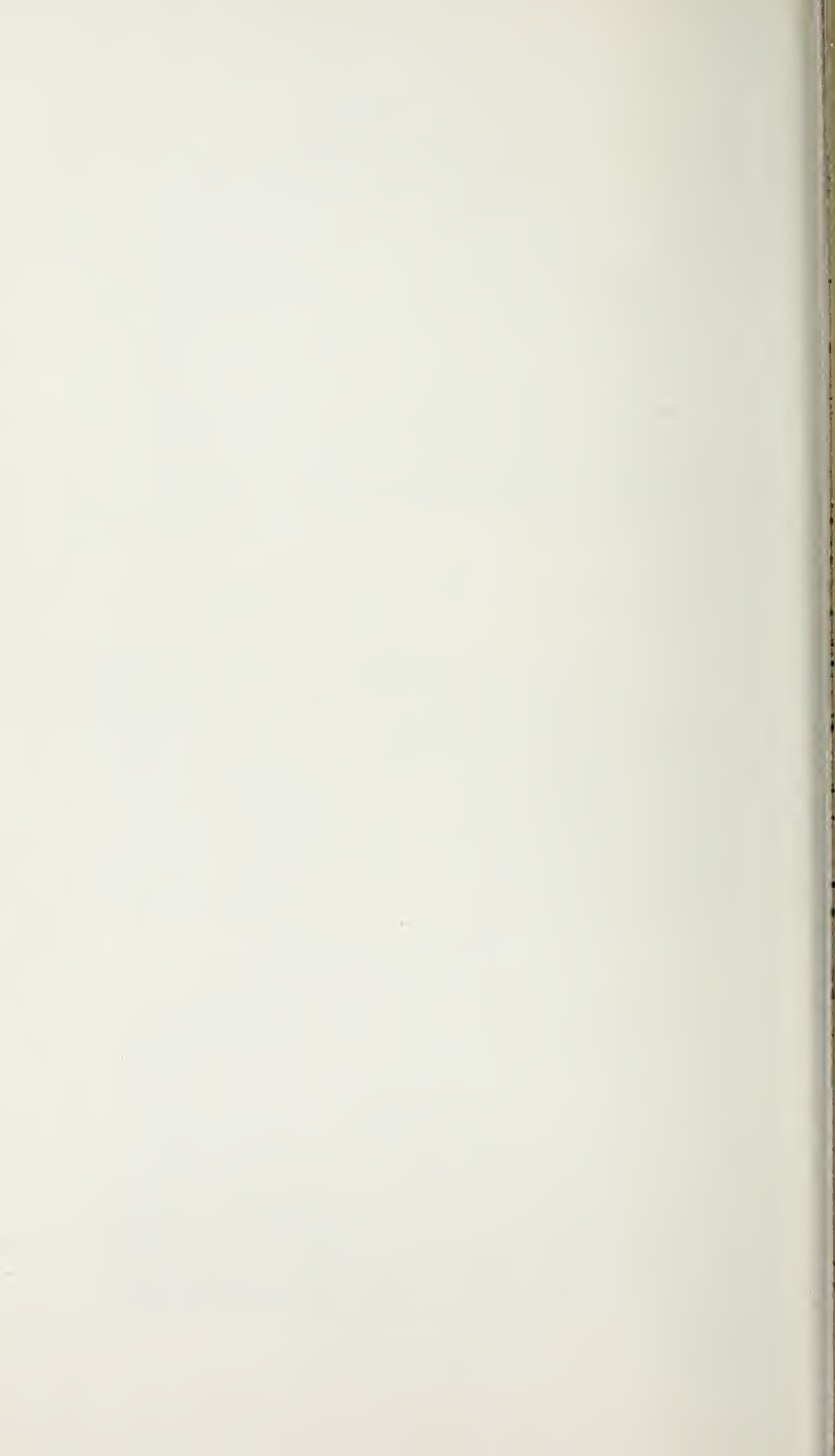
In 1897, there were 40 buildings, and in them the following grades were carried on: 2 high schools, 18 grammar, 39 second-



BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL.



GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL.



ary, 27 advanced secondary, 92 primary, and 66 advanced primary, total 244.

Scholars enrolled, 5588 male; 5542 female; total 11,130. Average daily attendance 9,972. Teachers, 8 male; 257 female. Total investment in buildings, furniture and supplies, about \$830,000. Debt, \$69,000. Annual tax levied, \$160,000.

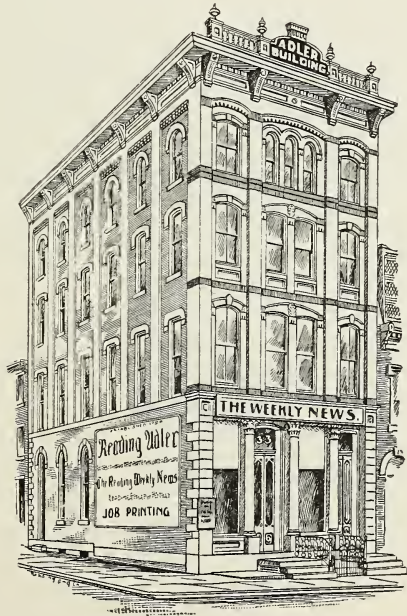
Private Schools.—There have been many private schools. Those worthy of special mention, still in existence, are the following, the year after each indicating when started: Reading Business College, 1852; Academy of Immaculate Heart, 1859; Benade School for Children, 1870; Ruenzler School for Children, 1877; Carroll Institute, 1880; Stewart Academy, 1881; Inter-State Commercial College, 1885. There are four parochial schools: St. John's German Lutheran, instituted in 1865; St. Peter's Roman Catholic, 1859; St. Paul's Roman Catholic, 1869; and St. Mary's Polish, 1895.

NEWSPAPERS.

The newspapers of Reading have an interesting history from 1789 to the present time.

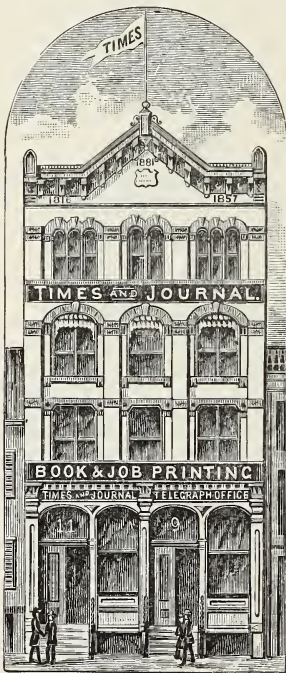
From the beginning of the town until 1800, some inhabitants received the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, published at Philadelphia, which gave them foreign news, and events of surrounding places that occurred weeks before. Local news was not reported. An occasional letter from Reading was published; but the important happenings, such as we are now accustomed to read daily, were not noticed, for they were communicated by social intercourse at stores and taverns.

The population having been limited, this was easily done.



ADLER BUILDING.

Thence the news was carried from place to place. But as the borough became a city, with its territory extended, and its inhabitants widely distributed and largely increased, the natural way grew more and more incapable of satisfying the inquisitiveness of the people and an artificial way had to be provided. This was by the local newspapers. After the lapse of 100 years, general progress had come to be so wonderful that just as the natural way had to yield to the artificial, so did the old and slow process of printing on a hand press, with its limited capacity, have to make way for the new and spirited process by a steam perfecting press, with its unlimited capacity. In the beginning, the newspaper was weak in every respect, small in size, limited in circulation, uncertain in financial support, and wanting in mental vigor and originality, but now it is strong, rich, bold and energetic.

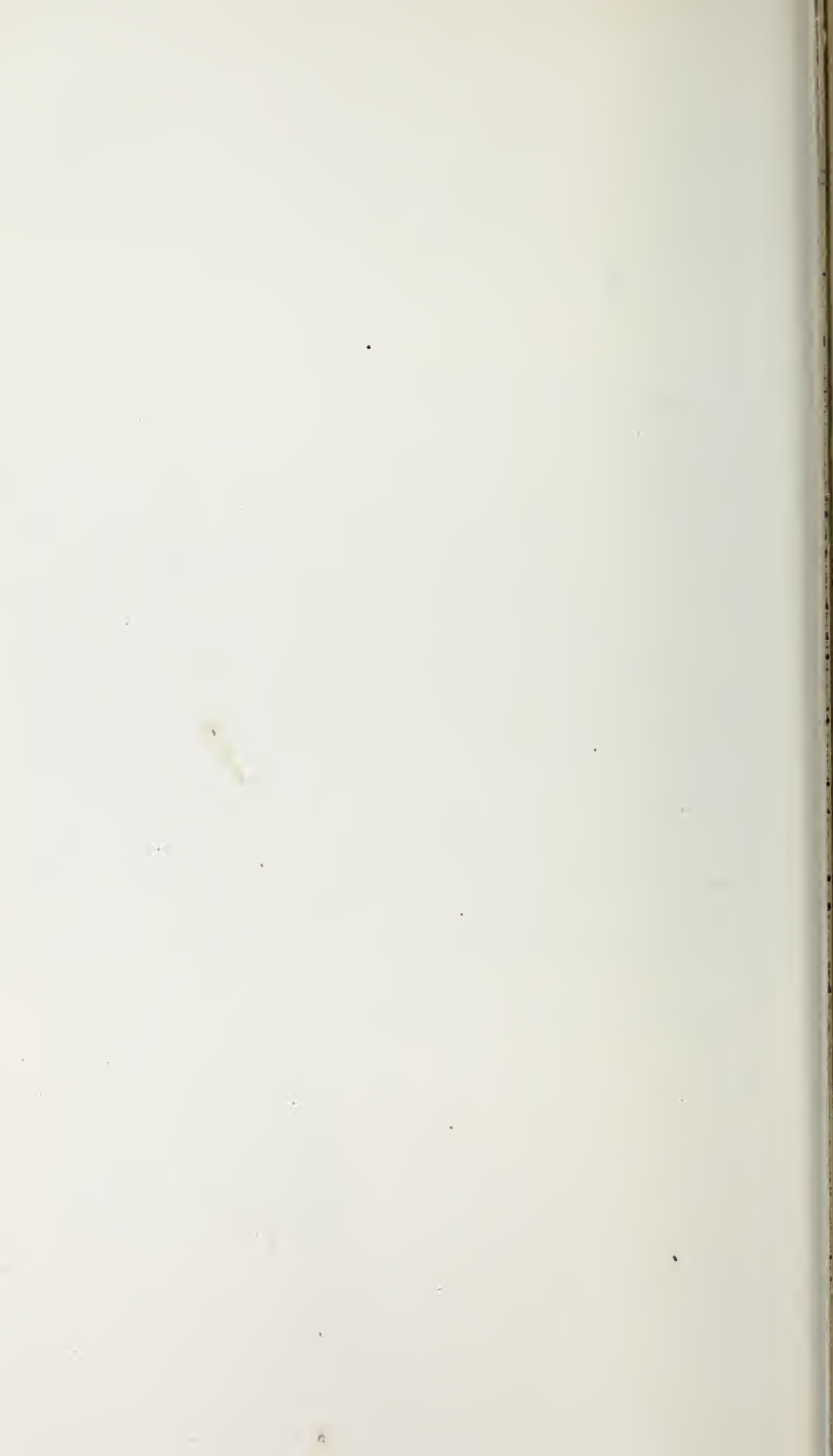


TIMES AND JOURNAL BUILDING.

The first newspaper at Reading was issued in 1789, but did not continue long. It was printed in the German language and was called *Der Neue Unpartheiische Readinger Zeitung* (The new Impartial Reading Newspaper.) The next appeared in 1796. In that year several were begun and one of them has been published until now, the *Reading Adler*. Another, the *Weekly Advertiser*, was published until 1816, when the *Berks and Schuylkill Journal* took its place. Afterward, for forty years, many were issued but with few exceptions they were not published many years. The most notable of these have been mentioned in a previous part of this work, [p. 21.] They were all weekly publications, issued on different days of the week, but mostly on Saturday. Until 1847, the daily newspaper was not issued, not even suggested. The popula-



The Reading Eagle Building, Southwest Corner Sixth and Penn Streets, Reading, Pa.



tion was about 12,000, and rapidly increasing, and the spirit of enterprise was establishing itself effectually amongst the people. Various industrial establishments and building operations were carried on successfully; the daily events were increasing with the advancement of the place, and the desire to know them at once was asserting itself. So, just as the stage-coach and packet-boat, through the energy of trading and traveling, had to make way for dispatch by means of the steam car, the weekly newspaper became unsatisfactory. Appreciating this desire, Abraham S. Whitman, a practical printer, in March, 1847, issued a tri-weekly newspaper, entitled *The Reading Herald*, but he discontinued it several months afterward. In July, 1847, J. Lawrence Getz issued the first daily newspaper, entitled the *Reading Gazette*, selling it at two cents a copy, or ten cents a week, but the general support was not sufficient, and he suspended the issue in nine days. In June, 1857, he made a second effort, but this also proved unsuccessful in February, 1858. In July, 1858, J. Robley Dunglison started the *Reading Daily Times* and this has been continued until now. The associated press began to supply Reading with telegraphic news in 1869, and the *Times* was the first newspaper to publish the despatches.

The newspapers and periodicals now published at Reading number 27; comprising 6 daily, 14 weekly, and 7 monthly. They are as follows, the figures denoting the years when they respectively began:

English Daily.—Times and Dispatch, 1858; Eagle, 1868; Herald, 1881; Telegram, 1887; Review, 1894.

German Daily—Post, 1868.

English Weekly.—Berks and Schuylkill Journal, 1816; Eagle, 1878, (taking the place of Reading Gazette and Democrat, which had been issued from 1840 to that time;) Herald, 1881, (taking the place of the Spirit of Berks, issued from 1876 to 1881;) News, 1881; Democrat, 1894; Reformed Church Record, 1888; The Advertiser, 1896.

German Weekly.—Adler, 1796; Republikaner von Berks, 1868; Banner von Berks, 1864; Reformirter Hausfreund, 1867; Eiche, 1869.

Sunday.—Die Biene, 1867; Eagle, 1877.

Monthly.—Litteratur Blatt, 1883; Illustrated Jugendblätter, (Youths Leaves) 1885; Pennsylvania Philatelist, 1891; Nineteenth Century, 1891; Reformed Church Tidings, 1896; Brigade Sentinel, 1897; The Greater Reading, 1897.

PART IV—ASSOCIATIONS.

Associations have occupied a prominent place in the social life of Reading for over a hundred years. At first they were few in number, but as the population increased, a desire to organize bodies of various kinds and for different purposes manifested itself more and more, particularly after the incorporation of Reading as a city. Then the secret society became very active, and this activity has been kept up until the present time. They are classified and treated in the following order:

Military	Financial	Musical
Protective	Industrial	Charitable
Secret	Literary	Religious
	Professional	

MILITARY ASSOCIATIONS.

The first association at Reading was organized in 1754 for purposes of defense against the Indians. It was during the French and Indian war, which affected this section of Pennsylvania from that time until 1763. Conrad Weiser was the most prominent military officer. Small companies of men were constantly quartered here, and the spirit of co-operation was shown until peace was declared and the Indians departed.

Associations of this character were again organized in 1774, and they prepared the way for a long and costly participation in the Revolution. They became compulsory in 1775 by legislation. The system which was established during that trying period for eight years was preserved, and thereby a military spirit became a noteworthy feature of the social life of the people. Whenever a call for troops was made, they responded with such alacrity as to be among the very first of the Nation's defenders. We can mention with patriotic pride Nagel's company of riflemen in the Revolution, Leoser's battery of artillery in the Mexican War, and McKnight's battery of artillery in the Civil War.

When the Civil War ended, the military spirit did not subside. Four companies were kept up for a number of years, and they became a part of the National Guard of Pennsylvania. The Reading Artillerists is the only company now at Reading. The organization was formed in 1794, and it has been maintained ever since. The captain is Samuel Willits, and the company is A, in the Fourth Regiment, Third Brigade.

PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATIONS.

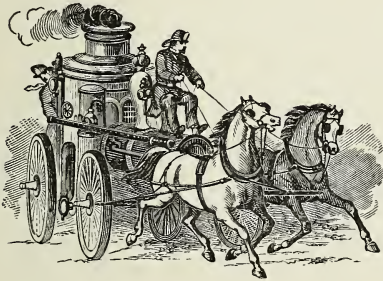
In 1773, a society was formed for protecting the community against loss from fire. It was called the Rainbow Fire Company, and has kept up a successful existence since that time. Other fire companies were formed subsequently as public demands for them arose, and they comprise the volunteer fire department.

Companies.—The following list embraces all the fire companies at Reading, and shows the date of organization, and membership for 1897 :

Name.	Year.	Members.	Name.	Year.	Members.
Rainbow	1773	700	Washington	1855	217
Junior	1813	700	Keystone	1856	500
Reading	1819	229	Hampden	1867	220
Neversink	1829	250	Marion	1884	193
Friendship	1848	720	Riverside	1890	175
Liberty	1854	651	Schuylkill	1892	115

Two companies were organized in 1897, Mt. Penn and East End, but they were not recognized by the Fire Department. They consolidated in 1898, under the name of Union No. 13.

Fire Apparatus.—The early fire apparatus was a hand engine; and water was carried from pumps in leathern buckets to supply it, until the water works were established in 1821. The hand engine was used by the first six companies and the Hampden. The first steam engine was introduced in 1860 by the Reading Fire Co., and until 1872 the other six had steam engines also.



The Keystone and Washington use "hook and ladder;" all the others the steam engine. The apparatus was drawn to the fire by hand until 1872, then horses began to be used, the Junior Co. being the first to make the substitution. A salvage corps was added to the Keystone Fire Co. in 1880.

Firemen's Union.—The Firemen's Union was organized in 1861. The management is vested in a board of trustees, elected annually, each company being represented by one mem-

ber. Howard F. Boyer served as chief engineer of the fire department from 1873 to 1885; and George W. Miller since 1885. The first state convention of the Firemen's Association of Pennsylvania, held at Reading, was in September, 1881, and the second in October, 1895. On both occasions there were great parades, the latter having been particularly distinguished for the great number of companies and men in line.

Fire Alarm.—Previous to 1873, the alarm of fire was sounded on the largest bell of Trinity Lutheran church for many years until 1840; then upon the bell of the court house for a period of 33 years. The locality of the fire was indicated by a number of strokes on the bell to correspond with the ward in which the fire was. Now, the alarm is given on the following seven bells distributed in different sections of Reading: Rainbow tower, Liberty building, Keystone building, Schuylkill building, First Presbyterian church, St. Thomas' Reformed church and Olivet Reformed church. Alarms are also struck in the buildings of the respective fire companies.

During 1871 and 1872 there were numerous false alarms of fire, and these became so annoying that a remedy had to be provided. Henry W. Spang advocated the Gamewell fire alarm system, and through his efforts Councils adopted it in 1873. This system embraces 62 boxes, distributed in 7 circuits, connected with 35 miles of copper wire. The battery, mechanical apparatus and switch board are located in the City Hall.

During 1897, there were 81 alarms, (69 bell, 7 still and 5 false.) Losses from fire to personal property, \$12,588; to real estate, \$126,736.

Equipment.—The fire department at Reading now comprises 10 fire engines, 2 hook and ladder trucks, 3 chemical engines, 12 hose carts, 14 extinguishers, 2 ambulances, 62 horses and 16,300 feet of hose; active firemen, 1600.

SECRET ASSOCIATIONS.

The secret society was inaugurated at Reading in 1780 by the Free Masons. In 1838, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was instituted. These were the only orders here when Reading became a city. Since then numerous others have been established with each succeeding decade; and each order has come to include various bodies. Now, there are altogether 30 orders, which comprise 157 bodies. Numerous other associa-



MASONIC TEMPLE.

tions have been organized for various purposes, such as athletic, political, sporting, musical, literary, social and beneficial, numbering altogether 60. Besides these, there are over 70, religious in character through their identification with the different denominations.

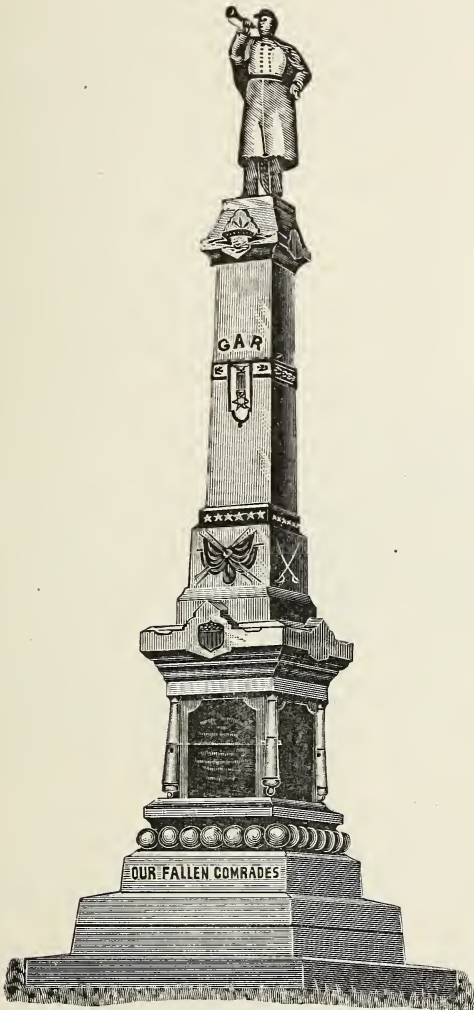
A brief description of all the orders can not be attempted in this compilation on account of the limited space allotted to this chapter; only the oldest, most prominent and strongest in membership will be mentioned.

F. and A. M.—In 1894, Lodge No. 62 Free and Accepted Masons celebrated the centennial of its institution, and caused a souvenir history to be published. The order embraces five lodges at Reading, with 1051 members. These lodges and two Royal Arch Chapters with 569 members, and two Knight Templar Commanderies with 550 members, have erected a superb 4-story granite front Masonic Temple on North Fifth street beyond Washington, at a cost exceeding \$100,000. The first Knight Templar State Conclave at Reading convened in 1872, and the second in 1895. On both occasions, the event was signalized by a superb parade.

I. O. O. F.—The first lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was instituted at Reading in 1838. An association was incorporated in 1845 for erecting a hall for use of the Odd Fellows and all other benevolent societies of the place; a lot was purchased at Fifth and Franklin streets, and a four-story brick building was erected thereon. At the dedication on October 26, 1847, dignitaries of the Supreme Lodge, and of the Grand Lodges, of the order of this and other states, were in attendance. In 1880, the Grand Lodge met at Reading, and again in 1893. At the latter convention, John Wunch, a resident of Reading, was elected Grand Master, and in that year he laid the corner stone of the I. O. O. F. Temple at Philadelphia. Since 1847, only one grand parade was given by the order at Reading and this was in 1882. In February, 1898, there were at Reading 9 lodges and 1534 members.

K. G. E.— The first castle of the Knights of the Golden Eagle was instituted at Reading in 1885. The Grand Castle convened at Reading in 1886, and the Supreme Castle in 1897. The order at Reading comprises 9 castles with 2,000 members; 3 commanderies, 300 members; 2 lady temples, 150 members.

G. A. R.—The following societies have been organized at Reading by men who were enlisted in the Civil War, or by members of their families:



SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

McLean Post, No. 16, instituted 1866; members, 500; and Women's Relief Corps.

Keim Post, No. 76, instituted 1878; members 100.

Meade Camp, No. 16, Sons of Veterans, instituted 1881; members 250; and Ladies' Aid Society, No. 6.

Union Veteran Legion Encampment, No. 43, instituted 1889; members 200; and Ladies' Auxiliary.

Ladies of the G. A. R. instituted 1883; members 128.

Ringgold Light Artillery, First Defenders, organized at Reading in 1892 with the four other companies which were the first to respond to the call of President Lincoln for troops in 1861.

Through the efforts of the members of the two Posts, an imposing granite soldiers' monument was erected in Charles Evans Cemetery, and dedicated with interesting ceremonies in 1887.

P. O. S. of A.—The Patriotic Order Sons of America was instituted at Reading in 1860, and has come to be the strongest secret beneficial society here, comprising 14 camps, with a total membership exceeding 3400. In June, 1888, the National and State Camps held their conventions at Reading, and to signalize the extraordinary occasion, the order gave a monster parade, which, in respect to the great number in line, and to the public decorations, exceeded all demonstrations of every kind theretofore given. In August, 1897, the semi-centennial of the order was celebrated at Reading. The first camp had been instituted at Philadelphia in 1847, but it was obliged to suspend on account of the members enlisting in the Civil War. Camp No. 61, at Reading, maintained its organization, notwithstanding many of its members had enlisted also, and kept the order in existence, for which reason Reading was selected by the State Camp, and also by the National Camp, as the proper place for the celebration.

I. O. R. M.—This society was established at Reading in 1854 by the name of Ancient Order of Red Men, but this was changed to Independent Order in 1867. It now comprises 6 councils and 1200 members; also 2 auxiliary councils for women, with 450 members.

Jr. O. U. A. M.—The Junior Order United American Mechanics was instituted at Reading in 1867. It has now 7 councils and 1400 members. For some years past it has been noted chiefly for presenting the national flag to the school authorities for display over the public school buildings.

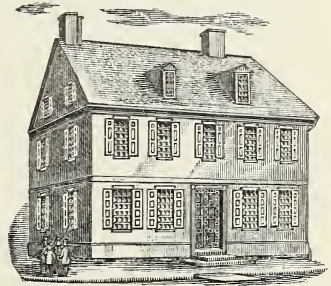
Other Societies.—Other secret societies, worthy of mention, with the time when first instituted at Reading, are the following: Order United American Mechanics, 1847; German Order of Harugari, 1849; American Protestant Association, 1857; Independent Order of Good Templars, 1858; Brotherhood of the Union, 1864; Knights of Pythias, 1867; Knights of Friendship, 1871; Knights of Mystic Chain, 1871; Royal Arcanum, 1880.

Club Houses.—Five club houses have been established at Reading: Wyomissing, 1890; Ivy Leaf, 1891; Independent Gun Club, 1891; Combine, 1891; and Nursery, 1892.

FINANCIAL.

Banks.—The first bank at Reading was established in 1808. It was a branch of the Pennsylvania Bank and continued until 1857, when it suspended. Its place of business was in the building now occupied by the National Union Bank.

The next was the Farmers', organized in 1814, which has been continued in the same building where it started. [See p. 15] The Eckert family have been prominently identified with it since 1836.



BRANCH BANK BUILDING.

The following list embraces the banks at Reading, showing the time of organization, capital stock, &c., in April, 1898, all being national banks, excepting the last two, which are state banks:

	Year.	Capital Stock.	Surplus and undivided profits.	Deposits.
Farmers'	1814	\$400,020	\$480 473	\$ 969,092
Union	1857	200,1 00	448 390	1,034,117
First National	1863	250,000	239,021	575,265
Keystone	1871	100,000	129,952	443 370
Second Nat'l	1881	200,000	202,254	460,000
Penn	1883	100 000	111,558	580,900
Reading	1893	200,000	120,294	397,730
Citizens'	1888	125,000	48,500	160,451
Schuylkill Val'y	1890	100,000	72,927	267,052
		\$1,675,020	\$1,853,369 .	\$4,887,977

B. & S. A.—The building and savings association as an institution for the acquisition of property or accumulation of money

out of savings by working people was organized at Reading in 1848, and it has been kept up for fifty years. At least fifty ran out during this period. But they have not been so successful lately owing to the depressed condition of the times. Previous to 1876, the associations received moneys only and made them profitable on mortgage securities; then they began not only to erect dwellings, but also market houses and business places. In 1897, there were 53 associations at Reading.

Insurance Companies.—The first fire insurance company in Berks County was organized in 1844, and the first at Reading was in 1867. The Reading Fire Insurance and Trust Company was incorporated in 1868; the Trust company was incorporated as a separate institution in 1886, and since then the Insurance company has carried on business by itself. It carries policies on properties throughout the United States east of the Rocky Mountains. Assets, \$844,165; surplus, \$551,064; amount at risk, December 31, 1897, \$40,828,794. S. E. Ancona has been secretary and treasurer since 1868.

The Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Reading was organized in 1870, and since then it has not levied a single assessment. Its insurance extends throughout Pennsylvania, and amounts to \$4,500,000; the policies number 20,000.

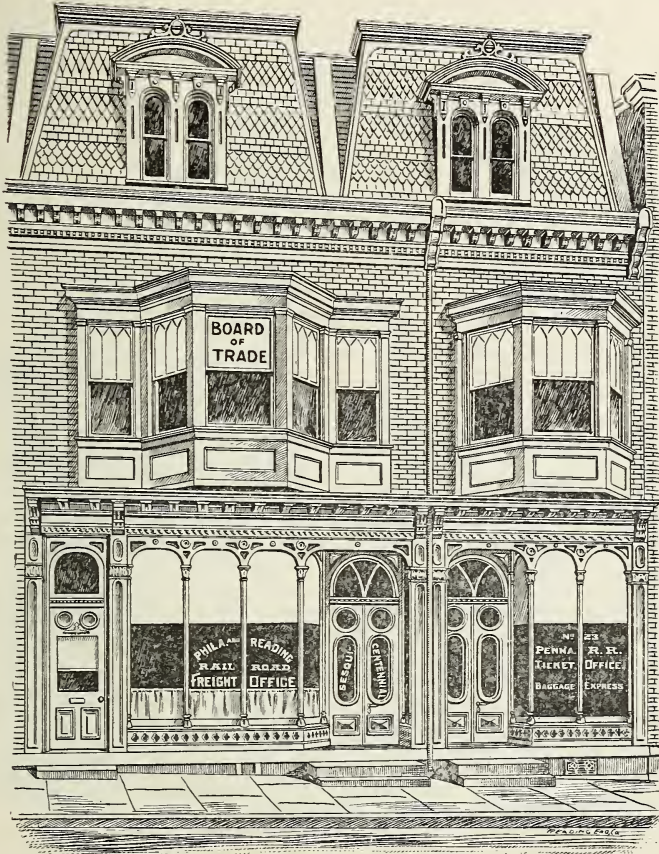
Trust Companies.—The Reading Trust Company was incorporated in 1886. Stock, \$250,000; assets over \$500,000. Trust officer, Jos. W. Day.

The Pennsylvania Trust Company was incorporated in 1886. It erected a superior building as a place of business, the first five story structure with an elevator at Reading. Stock, \$250,000; assets over \$1,000,000; trust funds over \$300,000. Trust officer, D. W. Stehman.

INDUSTRIAL.

The first board of trade at Reading was formed in 1807, for the purpose of considering the possible navigation of the Schuylkill, a number of prominent men having at that time founded an association under the name of The Society for Promoting and Cleaning the River Schuylkill. The same men were interested in other local improvements, such as turnpikes, canals, bridges and railroads; and they accomplished great good in the development of Reading.

A second board was started in 1870, but it had a short existence. The third, which is the present board, was organized in 1881, and it has kept up a successful existence, accomplishing much good in behalf of industrial affairs. The first steps towards a proper observance of Reading's Sesqui-Centennial



BOARD OF TRADE BUILDING.

were taken by the Board, and the subject was agitated by the members until the co-operation of City Councils was obtained, and a thorough organization for that purpose effected. Its meetings were held in different buildings on Penn square for a number of years. Its quarters are at No. 25 north Sixth street.

LITERARY.

Libraries.—The Reading Library was organized in 1808. It contained 1000 volumes in 1842, and 1500 volumes in 1850. A reorganization was effected in 1868, when it purchased the Odd Fellows' hall. It was made free January 1, 1898, through



READING LIBRARY.

the liberality of twenty-three men who each contributed \$500 towards extinguishing the debt on the hall. The present number of volumes is about 9500.

Reading German Library was organized in 1808, and began with 685 volumes. Subsequent additions were made until

it had 1500. The society disbanded in 1847, and the books were distributed amongst its members.

Berks County Law Library was organized in 1843 and kept up by appropriating certain fines allowed by law. The books are arranged in three compartments on the second floor of the court house between the two court rooms. The collection of reports, text and miscellaneous books number 3500.

Harmonie Maennerchor Library was started when the Reading Mænnerchor was organized in 1847. The nucleus was the collection of books of the German library, which disbanded about that time. An addition of 1200 volumes was made in 1877 by the disbanding of the Schiller Verein. The present number of volumes is 3200.

Washington Library.—A society was formed in 1854 for social purposes, and several years afterwards it was named the Washington Library. The society was incorporated in 1870; and in 1876, it erected a superior three-story marble front building at 640 Penn street, the second and third stories being handsomely fitted up for the members. It possesses a library of 500 volumes. Property investment \$25,000; active members 60; contributing members 100.

Historical.—A historical society was formed in 1840, but no record of its transactions was preserved. In 1869, a second society was incorporated under the name of Historical Society of Berks County, but only several meetings were held. From that time until February, 1898, nothing was done; then a reorganization was effected with A. G. Green, Esq., as president, and George M. Jones, Esq., as secretary, and quarters were secured in the court house, third floor, for its meetings and for storing its papers. Membership, 80.

PROFESSIONAL.

Medical.—A medical society was organized at Reading in 1824. It was the second society of this nature formed in Pennsylvania, the first having been at Philadelphia. Dr. Isaac Hiester was the first president and he continued to fill this position for twenty-five years. In 1849, the second annual convention of the State Medical Society was held at Reading, and in 1891 another was held here. In 1866, the name was changed to Berks County Medical Society, which it has held until now.

The transactions began to be published in 1896. The members number 75.

The Reading Medical Association was organized by physicians of Reading in 1850. It was chiefly instrumental in establishing the Reading Dispensary, and the Reading Hospital. The membership is 43.

Legal.—Men learned in the law have been admitted to practice in the several courts of Berks county since 1752, but no society was organized until 1867. Then the Legal Association of Berks County was established. All the members of the bar have resided and continue to reside at Reading, with only several exceptions.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Beethoven Society.—The first singing society at Reading was organized about 1832. It was called the Beethoven Society. The first concert was given in the "State House" which was a great success. Concerts were given by the society for a number of years afterward.

Harmonie Maennerchor.—The second was the Reading Maennerchor, organized in 1847. This has maintained an active existence ever since, and is now one of the oldest singing societies in the United States. The first National Saengerfest was held at Philadelphia in 1850, and William Rosenthal, (then living at Philadelphia, but at Reading since 1860,) was the presiding officer. There were only four societies in attendance, the Reading Maennerchor being one of them. The first Saengerfest at Reading was given under the auspices of the society in 1868. It was attended by seventeen German singing societies and the concerts were given in the exhibition building of the Agricultural Society (then adjoining the Berks county jail.) In 1874, the Harmonie Maennerchor, (which was organized in 1866,) consolidated with the Reading Maennerchor, and the former name was adopted. In 1878, the society secured quarters in the large structure on Sixth street near Walnut, on which account the building was named Maennerchor Hall, and there the society has remained until now. In 1884, the second Saengerfest was given at Reading and it was attended by several thousand Germans from different parts of the country. The National Saengerfest at Newark in 1891, at New York in 1894,

and at Philadelphia in 1897, were attended by the society and the members acquitted themselves most creditably, being tenth amongst thirty-seven competing societies at the last named and winning a prize. The third Saengerfest at Reading was in 1892, known as the "First Pennsylvania Saengerfest," because only societies from the State were allowed to participate. On August 5, 1897, the society celebrated its fiftieth anniversary, there being present many delegations from German singing societies from the eastern and middle states, besides delegations from all the German societies at Reading. The active membership is 32; contributing, 300.

Reading Musical Society.—The third musical society was formed in 1855 by H. D. Torrey, an artist, and named the Reading Musical Society. Annual concerts were given and the organization was maintained until 1860.

Mozart Musical Union.—The fourth was formed by James M. Lyons in 1862. It was called the Mozart Musical Union. Concerts were given annually here and elsewhere until 1872.

Reading Choral Society.—In 1875, Prof. Edward A. Berg organized the fifth, by the name of Reading Choral Society. It participated in the May Musical Festival at New York City in 1882, which was given under the leadership of Theodore Thomas. The grand chorus comprised 3500 voices, and in rendering one of the pieces on the program, the tenor part was sustained by the Reading Choral members so effectually as to win the special commendation of Thomas himself. The society was represented on that occasion by 103 members. Numerous concerts were given by the society at great expense, at which nearly all the renowned oratorios were rendered. The members, numbering 119, reorganized in October, 1897, and participated in the Eisteddfod at Allentown, Pa., on Thanksgiving Day, where they won four cash prizes: mixed chorus, female chorus, soprano solo by Evelyn Essick, and alto solo by Hannah Yoder. Prof. E. A. Berg was the musical director.

Reading Liederkrantz was organized in 1885. Its first festival was held in Deppen's Hall in 1890; on which occasion, German societies were in attendance from Reading, Pottsville, Allentown and Wilmington. In 1891 its quarters were established in Library Hall. In 1894 the society participated in the singing

contest at Allentown and won the first prize, scoring the highest number of points. Membership, 200.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.

The first brass band at Reading was organized in 1814. From that time until 1852, several bands flourished for a while, the Reading Military Band and afterward the Mechanics' Brass Band, having been quite prominent.

Ringgold Band.—In 1852, eighteen men of Reading, who were mostly mechanics but fond of instrumental music, associated together and organized a band, which they named the Ringgold Brass Band, after the Ringgold Light Artillery, of which the men were members. John A. Hook was the leader. When the Civil War broke out, its services were tendered to the government. Mr. Hook was still the leader, but nearly all the other original members had withdrawn. It was connected with the 25th Regiment, P. V., and served the term of its enlistment, three months. Joseph Winter became the musical director in 1868, and he has filled this position ever since. It accompanied the State Fencibles of Philadelphia to the centennial celebration of Bunker Hill; and by special request of the commissioners, it participated in the opening ceremonies of the Centennial at Philadelphia in 1876. In 1878, it took part in the centennial celebration at Valley Forge. In 1881, it was attached to the 1st Brigade, N. G. P., with 35 members; and in that year it was detailed to accompany a provisional brigade as an escort to the Governor and members of the Legislature at the centennial celebration at Yorktown, Va. In 1888, it participated in the 100th anniversary of constitutional government at New York city; in 1896, in the centennial celebration at Huntingdon, Pa.; and in 1897, in the centennial celebration at Waynesboro, Pa. Besides these great occasions, it led political clubs in parades at nearly all the inaugurations of the presidents of the United States, and of the governors of Pennsylvania since 1852. The band now numbers 40 members.

Germania Band.—The Germania band was organized in 1887 with 18 members and Prof. Monroe A. Althouse as leader. It has been very popular, especially with the several fire companies and the Knights Templar of Reading, attending the state tournaments of the former, and the national and state conclaves

of the latter. It also accompanied various bodies on trips to prominent cities in different parts of the United States.

Liberty Cornet Band was first organized in 1882 with 26 members, and Prof. O. H. Unger as leader. It was reorganized in 1895 with 25 members and Prof. O. F. Kauffman, leader.

Independent Drum and Flute Corps was organized in 1890 with 14 members. It has now 22 players, comprising flutes, piccolos, tenor and bass drums, and cymbals. Prof. Geo. A. Homan is musical director.

Other Bands.—The other musical bands now at Reading are Athletic, Riverside and Boys' Brigade; and drum corps, Big Six, and Boys' Brigade; these, however, are of recent origin.

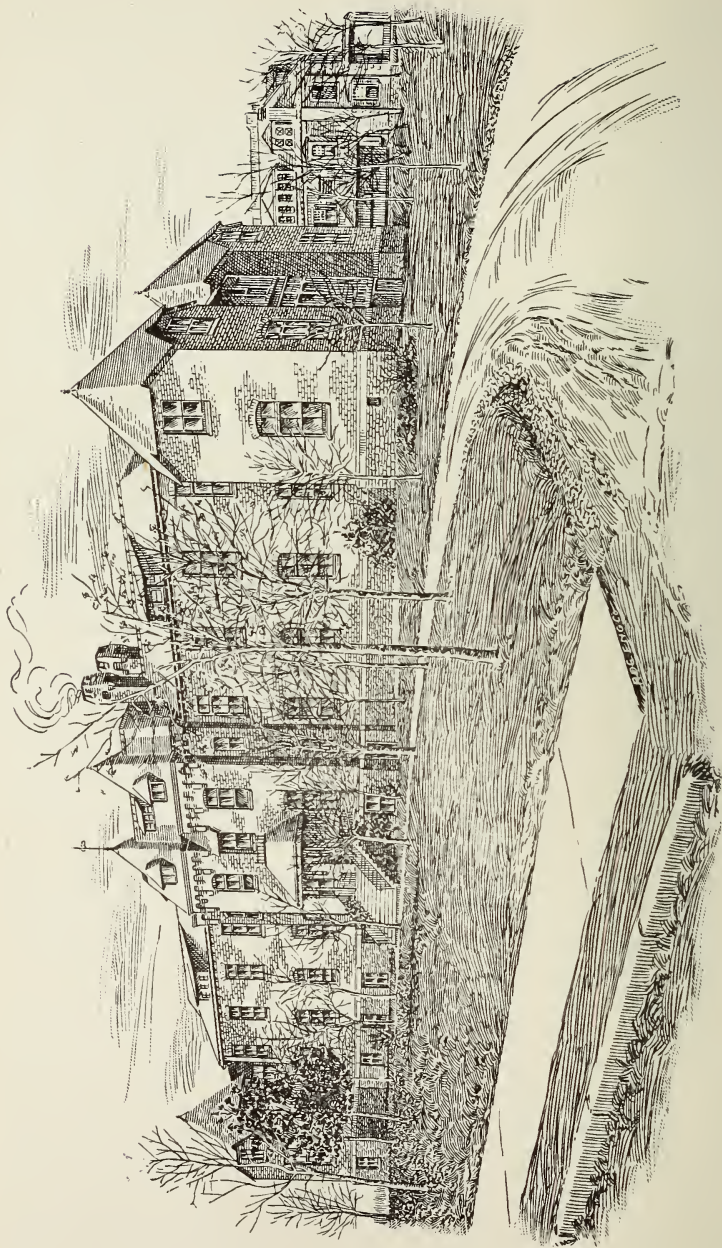
CHARITABLE.

Soup Society.—The first public association for indigent persons of Reading was formed in 1823. Owing to the construction of the Schuylkill canal much sickness and distress arose in numerous families at Reading, and also along the canal to the county line beyond Birdsboro. It was called a "soup society," and much relief was afforded. After the prevailing epidemic subsided the society disbanded.

Benevolent Society.—In 1835, the Reading Benevolent Society was established. The first annual meeting was held on January 1, 1836, and annual meetings have been held regularly ever since. The regular meetings of the managers were held in private houses until 1874; since then the building of the Relief Society has been occupied.

Relief Society.—In 1866, the Reading Relief Society was organized for distributing soup to the poor. It co-operates with the Benevolent Society. In 1874, its fine building at Franklin and Plum streets was erected.

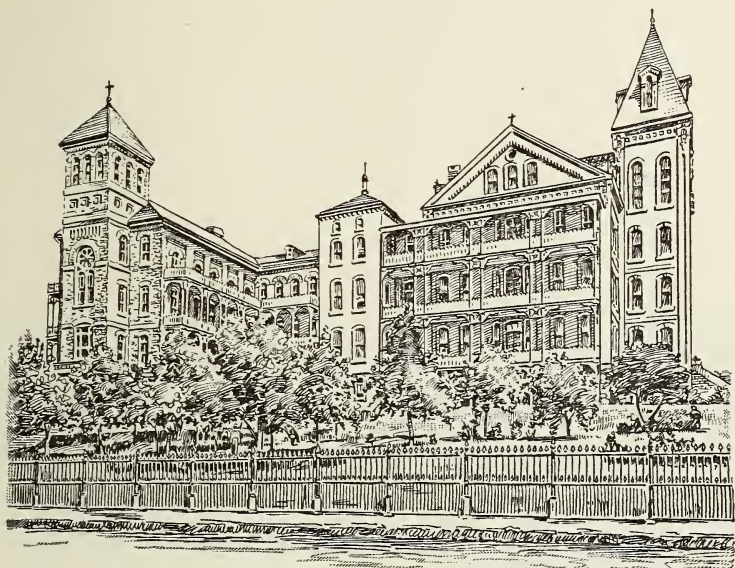
Bureau of Employment.—The Bureau of Employment was formed in 1875 by a number of women, who were connected with the Benevolent Society, for employing deserving and self-respecting women at sewing and paying them fair prices for their work, either in money or clothing. Quarters were established in the Relief Society building. During the first winter, over 200 women were supplied with work. The following statistics show the work accomplished:—wages paid, \$10,000; garments exchanged for work, 900; articles made up, 55,000; ma-



READING HOSPITAL.

terials purchased, \$10,000; clothing sold, \$12,700; garments distributed, 5,144; receipts from various sources, \$7,600.

Reading Hospital.—A society was organized in 1868 to provide medical aid to the indigent sick and wounded people of Reading, and in 1869 it was incorporated under the name of



ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL.

Reading Dispensary. In 1883, this name was changed to the Reading Hospital. Then the directors raised \$25,000, and the State appropriated \$20,000 towards a building which was erected in 1884 at Front and Spring streets, which was opened in 1886. An addition was made to it in 1890, called the Wootten Wing (John E. Wootten) at a cost of \$20,000, and a Training School was erected on the lot for student nurses in 1896, by the efforts of the Ladies' Auxiliary. Annual contributions have been received from the State since its erection. The medical staff is selected from the Reading Medical Association and consists of six surgeons, six physicians and a resident physician, who are elected annually. Total cost, \$75,000; total number of cases treated, 3,730. In 1897, cases treated were 542; prescriptions for patients in hospital, 8,621; and prescriptions for dispensary cases, 1,566.

St. Joseph's Hospital.—In 1873, the Vollmer property at Twelfth and Walnut streets was purchased for hospital purposes by Rev. George Bornemann, and a small brick dwelling thereon was placed under the charge of the Sisters of St. Francis. In 1885, a superior large brick building was erected costing \$60,000, and in 1895, an addition was made to it, costing \$85,000, all paid by contributions from the community, solicited by the Sisters. It comprises 12 wards and 28 private rooms. Total patients treated, 5,865; and prescriptions filled, 20,527. Patients treated during 1897, 673; and prescriptions filled, 1,682. The medical attendance is supplied from the physicians at Reading, the staff, (including the resident physician,) numbering 16.

Homœopathic Hospital.—In 1888, seventeen women started the Homœopathic Hospital and Dispensary Association, and



HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

for its maintenance funds were obtained from parlor entertainments, donations and membership dues. The demands for treatment increasing, a board of trustees was organized two

years afterward, and premises 126 North Sixth street were purchased for \$21,000. The building was completely furnished by the Ladies' Auxiliary, and the hospital was formally opened July 1, 1891. During the first six months, 26 patients were treated in the hospital, and 518 cases in the dispensary; and 1,862 prescriptions were filled gratuitously. During 1897, there were 411 patients, 1,298 dispensary cases and 4,694 prescriptions.

Widows' Home.—The society of the Home for Widows and Single Women was established in 1874, for the purpose of affording humane and charitable relief, assistance and support to widows and single women of Reading. A building was rented for a time; then a property on Eighth street near Chestnut street, in which a "Home" was established, and there it continued until 1886, when it was removed to the present structure at Sixteenth and Hawk streets. The treasurer, from the beginning until now, has been Susan E. Benson. Rachel E. Griscom was secretary from 1874 to 1890; and Mrs. Eliza W. Howe, first directress from 1874 to 1895.

Home for Friendless Children.—The Home for Friendless Children began as a day nursery in May, 1884, under the auspices of the Bureau of Employment at 236 Franklin street, and a widow as matron and five children were then placed there. The Home becoming too small, a lot was purchased on Centre avenue near Spring street, and a fine double two-story building erected, which was dedicated on Thanksgiving day, 1888. The number of children averages from 35 to 40. The society endeavors to secure private homes for these children, and there they are kept until 18 years of age.

St. Catharine's Female Orphans' Asylum was founded by Mrs. Catharine Madary, who, in 1871, devised her property at Franklin and Maple streets to Archbishop Wood in trust for the rulers of the Mother House of the Sisters of Charity at Emmitsburg, Md. Three Sisters came from Emmitsburg, and took possession in April, 1872. In 1873, a superior large brick edifice was erected, and in 1887, a large addition was built to it. The present number of girls in the asylum is 88; total number cared for is 407.

House of Good Shepherd was established at Fourth and Pine streets in 1889 by the Roman Catholics at Reading, and a colony of Sisters from the Provincial House at Philadelphia came to

Reading to take charge of it. The object is to reclaim fallen girls and women, and teach them sewing and laundry work, so that when they leave the place they can earn a living. They are allowed to remain if they wish to do so, and then they become Magdalens. There are 13 Cloistered Sisters, 3 out-door Sisters and 13 Magdalens connected with the institution. Total number of girls cared for is 228; present number, 44.

St. Paul's Orphan Asylum for Boys was established at 137 North Ninth street in 1889 by the St. Paul's Roman Catholic congregation, and 16 boys became its first inmates. Now it harbors 56 boys; total number cared for, 141. In 1897, the institution was enlarged. It is supervised by the Rector of St. Paul's church and supported by voluntary contributions.

Canstatter Volks-Fest Verein was organized in 1882, for celebrating annually the "Canstatter Volks-Fest," and since that time it has been very successful, the celebrations attracting many people, contributing much pleasure, and developing great sociability. The members are almost entirely Germans and number now 275.

S. P. C. A.—The society for the prevention of cruelty to animals was organized in 1891. It has been maintained successfully until now, with Henry Martz as its detective and prosecuting officer. Theretofore cruelty to animals was a common occurrence in Reading but after a number of inhuman persons had been prosecuted and fined for their cruelty to horses and cattle (about 100, mostly persons from the country districts,) a much improved public sentiment followed. As a consequence cruelty to animals is seldom seen upon the streets and complaints on that account are rare.

RELIGIOUS.

Y. M. C. A.—The Young Men's Christian Association began at Reading in 1860, but it did not continue long in existence. A second attempt was made in 1869, and the organization then effected has continued until the present time. From 1879 to 1895, it was situated in the Breneiser building at Eighth and Penn streets. Its quarters were established at 626 Penn street in 1895, at a total cost of \$75,000. The exterior appearance is imposing and the interior compartments for reading, lecturing, educational, athletic and entertainment purposes are

complete. F. S. Livingood, Esq., has been president since 1886.

W. C. T. U.—In 1884, Francis E. Willard visited Reading in behalf of the Women's Christian Temperance Union and through her influence a society was formed which has been kept up since. The members number 75.

The Boys' Brigade was originally started in Scotland in 1883. The first company in the United States was organized in California in 1889, and the first at Reading in 1895. The object of the brigade is to advance christianity amongst boys through military organization. All religious denominations are represented in it. There are now at Reading 18 companies, which constitute the Fifth Regiment of Pennsylvania. The total membership is 800 boys over 11 years of age. Each church supplies the equipment for its respective companies.

PART V.—GOVERNMENT.

Town.—The local government at Reading from 1748 to 1783 was that commonly incident to a township for the regulation of road affairs. Until 1760, it was included in Alsace township; then it was established into a separate district.

Borough.—On September 12, 1783, the town was incorporated into a borough, and the people were invested with enlarged powers for local affairs, which related chiefly to the streets and the public peace. Provision was made for the annual election of two burgesses, four assistants, (who with the chief burgess constituted the council), high constable, town clerk, two supervisors and two assessors. The charter continued the same, excepting several modifications about elections.

City.—The borough was incorporated into a city on March 16, 1847. The Act preserved the wards previously created: Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest, and Spruce, and it provided for the election of one select and one common councilman from each ward by the electors, the former for three years and the latter for one year; for the annual election of a mayor, treasurer, and three auditors, and also for the election of a select and common councilman from the several wards, the former for three years and the latter for one year; and it provided further for the annual appointment by councils of a solicitor, surveyor,

two street commissioners, market commissioner, high constable, and scavenger. It created two districts for alderman, with two aldermen for each district; and the day of election was fixed for the third Friday of March. The Act was modified March 13, 1861, and among other things the terms of mayor and treasurer were extended to two years, and of auditor to three years; and it was again modified April 26, 1864, changing the day of election to the second Friday of February, and increasing the term of common councilman to two years, one-half of the number to be chosen every two years alternately.

The general Act of May 23, 1874, made a number of changes in the local government of Reading. The day of election was changed to the third Tuesday of February. Each ward became entitled to an alderman for five years, and a constable and assessor for three years. It substituted a controller in the place of the auditors, with a term of two years, and increased the term of engineer and solicitor to two years.

A general Act was passed May 23, 1889, for cities of the third class, (which included Reading,) and the terms were made as follows: Mayor, treasurer, controller, three assessors and engineer, for three years, solicitor for two years, select councilmen for four years, and common councilmen for two years.

Wards.—The first sub-division of Reading was made in 1817 for election purposes. The divisions were two, North ward and South ward, with Penn street as the dividing line. In 1840, it was sub-divided into four wards, Northeast, Southeast, Northwest and Southwest, with Penn street and Sixth street as the dividing lines. And in 1844, a Fifth ward was established called Spruce, comprising that part of Reading which lay between the Schuylkill and the Philadelphia and Reading railroad south of Spruce street.

In 1861, the names of the wards were changed to numerals: Spruce ward to First; Southwest to Second; Southeast to Third; Northeast to Fourth; and Northwest to Fifth. In 1864, the city was divided into nine wards. In 1876, two wards were added, the Tenth ward having been taken from the Second, and the Eleventh from the Ninth. In 1885, the Eleventh ward was divided into three wards, Eleventh, Twelfth, and Thirteenth. In 1892, the Fourteenth ward was taken from that part of the Seventh lying north of the Lebanon Valley railroad, and the

Fifteenth ward, from that part of the Sixth ward lying north of the railroad. And in 1894, the Sixteenth ward was taken from that part of the Eighth ward lying south of Hill Road and that part of the Tenth ward lying east of Thirteenth street.

OFFICIALS FOR CITY.

Elective.—The following officials are elected by the electors of the entire city every three years at the municipal election on the third Tuesday in February: Mayor, controller, treasurer, and three assessors; and the following by the electors of the sixteen respective wards: select councilmen for four years and common councilmen for two years.

Appointive.—The following are appointed:

By the Mayor:—Chief of police, 4 sergeants, 46 patrolmen, 2 operators of the police telegraph, 2 turnkeys, 2 patrol drivers, electrician, police clerk, commissioner of markets and city property, and scavenger, all subject to approval of councils.

By Council:—City clerk (4 years); 4 water commissioners, (4 years); city engineer (3 years); city solicitor (2 years); 5 members board of health, who select 2 physicians (indefinite period); 4 common commissioners (4 years); 4 commissioners of public works (4 years); superintendents, clerks, assistants, etc., are also appointed for the several departments.

[Complete list of officials appears at end of Chapter III.]

OFFICIALS FOR WARDS.

Officials are elected at the municipal election in February by the voters of each ward: Alderman (term 5 years); constable (3 years); and assessor (3 years); besides the representatives in the select and common councils.

OFFICIALS FOR PRECINCTS.

All the wards of Reading, excepting the Fourth, are divided into precincts, numbering altogether 45. Each of these precincts is an election district, and annually, on the third Tuesday in February, the voters elect a judge, 2 inspectors and a registry assessor. The Fourth ward constitutes an election district, and as to this district there is no registry assessor, the ward assessor performing the duties of that office also.

DEPARTMENTS.

The government of Reading comprises the following departments for the proper direction of its several local affairs in behalf of the public welfare:

Finance	Law	Surveys
Fire	Parks	Tax
Health	Police	Water
Public Works.		

Board of Water Commissioners.—The city was divided into four districts for the election of commissioners of water by an



CITY HALL.

Act passed March 21, 1865. Sixth street and Penn street were made the dividing lines; and city councils were required to elect

four persons, one from each district. Of the first board, two were to hold office for two years and the remaining two for four years. Thereafter every two years, councils have elected two members for four years. The office is without compensation. The board is authorized to employ a superintendent and workmen for carrying on the department.

Board of Health.—An Act was passed on April 22, 1873, specially authorizing the establishment of a Board of Health for Reading, with powers for the preservation of the public health. The board was made to consist of seven members, with an indefinite term of service and without compensation. The city was divided into four districts, with Sixth and Penn streets as the dividing lines. One member was to be appointed from each district and one from the city at large by the presidents of the councils; and these five were to select two physicians. And provision was made for the annual appointment of a health commissioner by the Board, with a compensation to be fixed by councils. The first permanent organization was effected on March 10, 1874, and it has been maintained since that time.

Board of Common Commissioners.—In 1887, Councils established Penn Common by an ordinance, and the city was divided into four districts, with Penn street and Sixth street as the dividing lines, for the purpose of selecting an elector from each district for the term of four years, and the electors chosen were to constitute the Board of Common Commissioners. They employ a superintendent, gardeners and watchmen to improve and protect the public property.

Board of City Assessors.—From 1874 to 1889, the voters of each ward elected an assessor for three years to assess real and personal property for purposes of taxation. Then cities of the third class were authorized to elect three persons as a Board of City Assessors to serve from the first Monday in April for three years. This board has accordingly from that time assessed the property in Reading for city purposes, and city councils have fixed the rate of taxation according to the demands for revenue. The rate for a number of years has been six mills.

Ward assessors are still elected, however, at the municipal election every three years, for county purposes.

Board of Public Works.—A Board of Public Works was established by city councils November 30, 1895, for the purpose of

supervising the grading, paving, repairing and regulating of the streets, and of controlling the house sewerage, pumping and disposal system; which was to comprise four commissioners, who were to be appointed by city councils, the appointees to be selected from the electors of the four districts of Reading, and the dividing lines of the districts to be Chestnut, Walnut and Douglass streets. This board has officiated since that time, having directed its attention more particularly toward the establishment of sewers for surface and house drainage, and of paved streets with sheet asphaltum. [See Part II, Internal Improvements—Streets and Sewers, p. 39-40.]

LIST OF BURGESSES AND MAYORS.

Burgesses.

Daniel Levan 1783	George M. Keim 1833-34
_____ * 1783-1815	Anthony Bickel 1834-35
John Spayd. 1815-22	Thomas Keppel 1835-36
William Witman 1822-25	William Schoener 1836-37, 1839-43
Peter Nagle, Jr.,	William High 1843-44
. 1825-31, 1832-33, 1837-39	William Betz 1844-47
Henry A. Muhlenberg. . . . 1831-32	

*Names not obtainable.

Mayors.

Peter Filbert 1847-48	Nathan M. Eisenhower . . 1865-67
Willam H. Keim 1848-49	William H. Gernand . . . 1867-71
George Getz* 1849-53	Samuel C. Mayer 1871-73
Daniel R. Clymer 1853-54	Charles F. Evans 1873-79
John S. Richards 1854-55	Henry A. Tyson 1879-81
William M. Baird 1855-56	William G. Rowe 1881-85
Joel B. Wanner. 1856-57	James K. Getz 1885-87
A. Jordan Swartz 1857-58	James R. Kenney 1887-90
Benneville Keim 1858-61	Thomas P. Merritt 1890-93
Joel B. Wannert † 1861-63	William F. Shanaman . . . 1893-96
Joseph S. Hoyer 1863-65	Jacob Weidel 1896-99

*Mr. Getz died February 10, 1853, and George M. Keim was elected to fill the short vacancy.

†Mr. Wanner enlisted in the Civil War before the expiration of his term, and David McKnight was elected to fill the vacancy.

The total vote of the city in 1847 for mayor was 1237; in 1877 it was 7086; and in 1896, it was 13,961.

STATE REPRESENTATIVES FROM CITY.

Under the provisions of the Act of May 19, 1874, the State of Pennsylvania was apportioned into senatorial and representative districts. By this apportionment Reading was made a separate district for representatives, and authorized to elect two members for two years. Previously the county, including the county-seat, was one district.

The following representatives were from Reading:

Name	Term	Name	Term
Amos B. Wanner	1875-76	Spencer H. Smith	1887-88
Jacob Miller	1875-78	Allen S. Beck	1889-92
Jeremiah Boone	1877-80	Samuel D. Missimer	1889-92
George McFarlan	1879-82	John B. Goodhart	1893-94
John S. Wagner	1881-82	John R. Laucks	1893-94
Asa G. W. Smith	1883-86	Edwin M. Luden	1895-98
Henry D. Green	1883-86	David West	1895-98
James L. Douglas	1887-88		

PART VI.—CENSUS.

Getz Enumeration.—In 1847, J. Lawrence Getz, publisher of the *Reading Gazette and Democrat*, made an enumeration of the population at Reading, with the following result: Males, 6641; females, 6403; total, 13,044; houses, 2138; families, 2398. There were then nearly twice as many persons south of Penn street as there were north.

Levan Enumeration.—In 1877, Edgar M. Levan, an attorney at Reading, published a directory of the city. While registering the names of the inhabitants, he collected interesting facts, showing the number and sex of the population, stores, dwellings, etc., with the following result:

Males over 21 years, 9765; under 21 years, 9787; females over 21 years, 10,784; under 21 years, 9773; total, 40,109; stores, 1044; dwellings, 8186; manufactories, 117. Number of persons to each inhabited dwelling, 5.19.

Comparative Statistics.—The following statistics are submitted to show the relative growth of Reading as compared with the country districts of Berks county at three different periods.

Reading.	1856	1885.	1897.
Taxables	4,094	13,279	24,439
Property assessed	\$4,011,763	\$23,780,222	\$38,429,030
Money at interest	380,853	5,049,482	7,890,438
Country Districts.	1856.	1885.	1897.
Taxables	13,480	20,879	27,711
Property assessed	\$19,691,126	\$40,806,570	\$37,818,845
Money at interest	2,020,575	8,741,821	8,152,817

Assessment for 1898.—The city assessors of Reading made an assessment of property in the several wards from September to December, 1897, which was revised by city councils from January to March, 1898, with the following result:

Wards.	Taxables.	Voters.	Property Assessed.	Property Exempted.
1st Ward	1272	983	\$ 2,046,200	\$ 250,400
2nd Ward	1992	1407	2,311,500	30,000
3rd Ward	1600	1306	3,682,000	357,700
4th Ward	1040	682	3,370,250	238,500
5th Ward	1173	881	2,074,300	42,000
6th Ward	2291	1874	3,688,225	88,000
7th Ward	1887	1079	5,266,100	1,101,000
8th Ward	1269	996	2,902,550	499,500
9th Ward	1661	1381	2,144,100	342,800
10th Ward	1524	1100	1,270,300	76,800
11th Ward	1742	1319	1,773,300	192,400
12th Ward	1805	1606	2,277,875	443,800
13th Ward	1899	1450	2,345,850	244,800
14th Ward	1126	872	2,806,808	187,650
15th Ward	931	659	1,957,291	149,600
16th Ward	1227	1048	2,168,884	451,700
Total	24,439	18,643	\$42,085,533	\$4,696,650

The property exempted from local taxation embraces all churches, parsonages, school-houses, public buildings, charitable institutions, and corporation buildings not including establishments that produce revenue.

Dwellings.—There were 16,079 buildings in Reading on January 1, 1898, which were located by wards as follows:

1st Ward	876	5th Ward	714	9th Ward	1122	13th Ward	1296
2nd Ward	1189	6th Ward	1581	10th Ward	1005	14th Ward	789
3rd Ward	1069	7th Ward	969	11th Ward	1072	15th Ward	651
4th Ward	644	8th Ward	822	12th Ward	1326	16th Ward	945

The character of the buildings is as follows: brick, 13,642; frame, 2,168; stone, 269, (the greater part of them being constructed out of brick with stone fronts.)

Census 1790 to 1898.—Previous to 1850, the enumeration of the several wards of Reading was not reported by the United States Census Department, and for that reason, the figures do not appear in the following table. For the several decades from 1790 to 1840, the total census was as follows: 1790—2,235; 1800—2,386; 1810—3,462; 1820—4,332; 1830—5,856; 1840—8,410.

POPULATION OF READING 1847 TO 1898.

Wards.	1847	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1898
1st Ward	2144	2962	4019	2834	3044	3694	3890
2nd Ward	3781	3774	4189	5530	5553	5947	6992
3rd Ward	2485	3165	4995	3732	4455	4665	4586
4th Ward	2091	3204	5760	2611	2826	2758	2543
5th Ward	2543	2638	4289	3205	3399	3467	2953
6th Ward				2763	3762	5977	7221
7th Ward				3541	4130	5185	3779
8th Ward				3690	3874	4403	3467
9th Ward				6024	4206	4800	5007
10th Ward					2834	6156	4605
11th Ward					5195	3899	4997
12th Ward						4110	6297
13th Ward						3600	5952
14th Ward							3362
15th Ward							3040
16th Ward							4242
Total.	13,044	15,743	23,162	33,930	43,278	58,661	72,933

MAYOR'S ENUMERATION, 1898.

At the request of the compiler of this history, the Mayor of Reading, Hon. Jacob Weidel, directed an enumeration of the

population of Reading to be made during the month of March, 1898, by the patrolmen under the supervision of the chief of police, John F. Albrecht, and the result was as follows: under 21 years of age, 15,548 males, 15,465 females; 21 years and over, 20,358 males, 21,562 females; all males 35,906, all females 37,027; total 72,933.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT--1898.

	Popu- lation	Taxa- bles	Property Assessment	Total Debt	Tax Rate in Mills		
					City	School	County
Allentown . . .	35,000	9,000	\$19,500,000	\$ 423,200	3 $\frac{3}{8}$	6	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Easton	20,000		11,000,000	305,900	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	2.8
Lancaster . . .	40,000		15,416,646	644,500	9	4	3
Lebanon	16,000	4,738	8,680,000	267,600	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	2
Harrisburg . . .	60,000	12,750	24,000,000	1,000,000	7	6	4
Reading	73,000	24,439	*42,085,533	1,352,500	6	4	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Scranton	106,000	38,789	23,452,916	579,538	12.8	4	7
Wilkesbarre . .	55,000	11,200	**7,000,000	464,500	23	18	7
Williamsport . .	33,000	7,000	9,150,060	729,500	15	7	5

* Not including exempted real estate, \$4,696,650.

** One-fifth valuation.

POPULATION NORTH AND SOUTH OF PENN STREET.

By the following table it appears that the major part of the population of Reading was south of Penn street from 1840 to 1880; and by averaging the increase from 1880 to 1890, it is evident that the major part had shifted north of Penn street in the year 1882.

	1840	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1898
South of Penn street	4991	9901	13113	17912	22111	26687	29811
North of Penn street	3419	5842	10049	16018	21167	31974	43122
	1572	4059	3064	1894	944		

COLORED POPULATION.

The colored population at Reading since 1830, by the United States census enumeration was as follows: 1830—192; 1840—221; 1850—357; 1860—285; 1870—311; 1880—350; 1890—390.

CHAPTER II.—INDUSTRIES.

PART I.—EARLY EMPLOYMENTS.

Employments before 1783.—The artisans of Reading have always been recognized for their skill and industry. When the town lots were first sold, and improved real estate was transferred to succeeding owners for thirty years afterward, the employments of the parties to the deeds was usually added to their names. An examination of the records in the Recorder's office reveals this fact. The employments were quite diversified, as the following enumeration indicates: baker, blacksmith, book-binder, brick-maker, brewer, butcher, cabinet-maker, carpenter, clock-maker, cooper, cord-wainer, felt-maker, glazier, gun-smith, hatter, joiner, locksmith, nailer, potter, reed-maker, saddler, shoemaker, tanner, tailor, tinner, tobacconist, weaver and wheelwright.

Many articles have been preserved and transmitted from one generation to the other. There are instances where certain articles, such as clocks, furniture, coverlets, silver-ware, etc., have been handed down for over a hundred years in a direct line. The workmanship is superior, showing thoroughness and experience. These articles were not made for the residents of the town and the surrounding settlements only, but to supply demands from distant places. In this respect, Reading had a wide reputation before 1783.

Hat-making was the most prominent industry then. Statistics previous to 1795 have not been discovered; but a table has been published, showing the production of Pennsylvania then, in which Berks County ranks next to Philadelphia, having had 38 hatters and produced 2200 fur hats and 54,000 wool hats, (the latter one-third of the total production of all the counties.) The production of the county was almost wholly from Reading. The shops were small.

Industrial Character.—In looking over the general situation of affairs until 1783, it is apparent that industry was a distinguishing characteristic of the people and that this was the direct cause of their prosperity. The rapid growth of the population shows the importance of the place. Business relations extended to different centres of trade and commerce. Many men were engaged in carrying on general stores. They traded mostly with merchants at Philadelphia. Inn-keepers were prominent men and they took much interest in local government and representative positions.

In 1762 there were thirty-two licenses issued by the Governor upon recommendation of the Justices. This large number of licenses for a town of only 1200 inhabitants is a certain indication that many persons from the surrounding townships and distant places visited Reading to transact business. Licenses were, however, issued to store-keepers besides inn-keepers, and farmers mostly purchased their liquors there.

The erection of a borough in 1783 for improved local government makes the developing process of the community apparent. The industry and enterprise of the people prepared the way for the introduction of stage-coaches, post office, newspapers, turnpikes, banks, bridges, canals and railroads. These improvements of a public nature indicate a strong co-operative spirit. Manufacturers, merchants and farmers kept themselves busy agitating them, and for their success in overcoming various obstacles and finally establishing them, they can not be given too much praise. By comparing their situation with that which we occupy, from sixty to one hundred years after those improvements were introduced, we must express surprise at their undertakings and accomplishments.

Early Traffic.—The following statement shows the extent of traffic at two early periods of Reading. The articles were shipped on flat-bottomed boats to Philadelphia from the store-houses of Garber & Strohecker, situated on both sides of the river, one below and the other above the Levan Ferry (now Lancaster bridge.)

In 1795:—18,135 bus. wheat, 2,220 bbls. flour, 105 tons straw, 11 tons linseed oil, 4½ tons beeswax, 9 tons butter, 3 tons paper, 1½ tons hams, 23 gals. brandy, 79 doz. hats.

In 1807, (February to June:)—31,198 bus. wheat, 4,695 bbls. flour, 380 bbls. bread, 153 bbls. pork, 200 bus. corn, 50 tons iron, 274 casks butter, 1,256 gals. brandy, $2\frac{1}{4}$ tons paper.

There were other store-houses, and shipments were made from them also, but no statistics have been preserved. Numerous teams were constantly going to and fro, delivering various productions and taking away merchandise.

In 1831, for the week ending May 27th, eighty boats loaded with various articles went down the canal from Reading; and in 1835, for the week ending June 14th, one hundred and twenty-five boats. Some of them had coal from Schuylkill county.

Ware-House in 1826.—The Schuylkill canal extended through that section of the town midway between Front and Second streets. A basin was constructed in the quarter block lying between Cherry and Franklin streets, and Second street and the canal, and this occupied a prominent place in the business affairs of Reading from 1826 to 1834. A large ware house stood along Second street. It was carried on by William P. Orrick. Numerous 4-horse and 6-horse teams, with large covered wagons, collected along Second, Penn and Franklin streets, waiting their turn for merchandise to be taken from the boats in the basin and hauled west, north-west and north-east many miles. They brought mostly grain to Reading for shipment by canal. It was the most prominent business point of the town until the canal was moved west, along the river, in 1834. This store-house was afterward converted into a planing mill.

This basin was also used as a landing place for "Packet Boats." Many passengers traveled by boat from Philadelphia to Reading, and preferred to do so on account of the quietness and coolness of the ride. The trip one way was made in a day, both by boat and by stage, that is, from morning till evening. This was accomplished by changing the teams at fixed stations from six to eight miles apart.

Reading in 1840.—William Stahle, a storekeeper, published a small book of 68 pages in 1841, relating to the business affairs of Reading as they existed in 1840. The particulars were collected by a young attorney named Jackson H. Sherman. More than sixty different employments were carried on at that time, and the manufacturing establishments numbered sixty-four. The enumeration, briefly stated, was as follows:

EMPLOYMENTS.

1 Artist.	4 Dentists.	1 Pump-maker.
7 Bakers.	11 Doctors.	1 Reed-maker.
6 Barbers.	3 Drovers.	4 Saddlers.
16 Blacksmiths.	4 Druggists.	1 Scissors Grinder.
1 Blind-maker.	4 Dyers.	26 Shoemakers.
3 Boat-builders.	2 Gunsmiths.	2 Silver-platers.
17 Brick-layers.	1 Horse Farrier.	5 Slop-shops.
14 Butchers.	3 Jewelers.	5 Stone-cutters.
8 Cabinet-makers.	26 Lawyers	3 Stone-masons.
30 Carpenters.	2 Locksmiths.	34 Tailors.
4 Cigar-makers.	24 Mantua-makers.	5 Tallow-chandlers.
9 Clock-makers.	12 Milliners	32 Tavern-keepers.
6 Coach-makers.	1 Millwright.	7 Tinsmiths.
6 Coach-trimmers.	3 Painters, (coach).	4 Turners.
1 Coffee-mill maker.	7 Painters, (house).	13 Weavers.
2 Coopers.	2 Painters, (sign).	6 Wheelwrights.
4 Coppersmiths.	3 Plasterers.	1 White Sweep.
3 Curriers.	3 Plumbers.	

MANUFACTORIES.

1 Auger Factory.	1 Gun Barrel Factory.
1 Blacking Varnish Factory.	1 Iron and Nail Works.
1 Brass Foundry.	1 Iron Foundry.
3 Breweries.	1 Lime Kiln.
9 Brick Kilns.	2 Machine Shops.
1 Brush Factory.	1 Piano Factory.
1 Coffee Mill Factory.	1 Rope Factory.
1 Comb Factory.	1 Saw Mill.
1 Distillery.	1 Stove Foundry.
3 Farming Implement Shops.	1 White and Morroco Tannery.
8 Fur Hat Factories.	5 Windsor Chair Factories.
2 Glue Factories.	14 Wool Hat Factories.
2 Grist Mills.	

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND ENTERPRISES.

3 Banks.	7 Newspapers.
2 Bridges.	13 Private Schools.
2 Canals.	13 Public Schools.
12 Churches.	4 Public Libraries.
5 Coal Yards.	1 Railroad.
6 Fire Companies.	4 Store Houses.
1 Green House.	89 Stores.
4 Livery Stables.	8 Sunday Schools.
3 Lumber-yards.	5 Vineyards.
2 Market Houses.	1 Waterworks.
3 Military Companies.	4 Wood and Coal Yards.

The foregoing list is not complete, for it is known that many men were engaged in other occupations which contributed their share towards the enrichment and development of Reading, such as wool-hat-makers, boot and shoemakers, molders, machinists, chainmakers, nail workers, potters, wheelwrights, distillers, brewers, rope-makers, and boat-builders.

PART II.—DEVELOPMENT OF READING.

1783-1847.—Between 1783 and 1847 the energy of the people was constantly shown in various directions. In the course of local events, it appears prominent in patriotism, in religious zeal, and in business intercourse. The erection of churches by different denominations would seem to have been accomplished mostly by first efforts; but the erection of bridges, turnpikes and canals required much perseverance under adverse circumstances, extending through many years.

The growth of the population of Reading was surprising, especially considering it as an inland borough. The stage-coach and turnpike contributed the greater proportion of this growth until 1825, and the canal and railroad from that time until 1847. Coal became the principal factor in this development after 1825. It was discovered about 1770, but it was not appreciated for heating purposes until after 1810, and for creating steam until after 1825. The first practical use of it in a stove at Reading is said to have been made in the Branch Bank about 1810. When the canal was opened for transportation from the coal regions in 1824, it began to be introduced in large quantities. Then factories were erected and they were operated by steam power. When the railroad was extended to Pottsville in 1842, the influence of coal in accelerating the development of Reading was felt in a marked degree. Iron must also be mentioned in this connection. It was the great constituent in machinery for factories, shops and furnaces, and in a substantial track for the railroad. Coal, steam and iron were each necessary to complete the great combination for power, despatch and economy, and they contributed largely to the rapid development of Reading from 1825 to 1850. This appears from the census enumeration, as follows: from 1820 to 1830, thirty-five per cent; from

1830 to 1840, forty-six and six-tenths per cent, and from 1840 to 1850, eighty-seven and two-tenths per cent.

1847 to 1897.—As near as it can be ascertained, Reading in 1847 contained thirty-seven different kinds of industrial establishments; also one hundred and thirty mercantile houses for which county licenses were issued. The following statement includes the names of the more prominent persons who carried on business here at that time:

Bakeries: Henry Drum, John G. Eben, David Mitchell and Daniel Moyer.

Blacksmith shops: John Drenkel, Aaron Getz, Peter D. Getz, Jacob Jones, Daniel Miller, Thomas Rambo and William Stoltz.

Boat-yards: William Krick, Samuel & Adam Krauser, William Hiester, Savage & Call, and Corbett & Stratton.

Breweries: Frederick Lauer, Nicholas Felix, John Borrell.

Brick-yards: John Darrah, Adam Diehm, Thomas Diehm, John Hoff, Benjamin Fink, Jacob Geiger, Henry Graul, George S. Levan, William Yeager, Jacob Young. All produced annually over 500,000 brick; seven others produced less than 500,000. Total for 1846, over 9,200,000.

Brush Factories: Benjamin Witman, Helms & German, William Sage.

Cabinet Factories: John Bertolet, Henry Haberacker, Josiah Hearing, Henry Rhein, Daniel Spang.

Candy Factories: P. K. & H. L. Miller, G. W. & A. M. Souders, Amos B. Yeager.

Carriage Factories: Ephraim Booth, Samuel Filbert, Jacob Hessler, Godfrey Simon, Isaiah Thomas.

Chain Factory: Nicholas Rapp.

Chair Factories: Owen Bitting, John Brown, Frederick Fox, James M. Lewis, Gustavus Leslie.

Cigar Factories: John Beadencup, Charles Breneiser, J. & E. Eyrich, Franklin Frantz, J. M. & G. W. Hantsch, John Maltzberger.

Clothing Shops: James Jameson, William McFarlan, George Newkirk.

Comb Factory: Viven & Behm.

Cooper Shops: Peter Barbey, Daniel Engel, Morton Righter, William Sands, Henry B. Shearer, Thomas Willson.

Distilleries: Philip Bushong, Riah Gillson.

Farming Implement Works: Adam Waid, Montgomery & Armstrong.

Fire-Brick Works: William Wells.

Glue Factories: Daniel Levan, Samuel Levan.

Green House: Michael Hauser.

Grist Mills: Frees & Kissinger (steam), George Smith (water.)

Hat Factories: Henry Brown, George Drenkel, Levi Hildebrand, Henry Henritze, John Kutz, John Lotz, Isaac W. Levan, Jacob Maurer, Adam Rightmeier, Charles W. Ringgold, Jacob Sauerbier, M. & J. Siegel, John Yerger, William Yerger.

Iron Works: Bertollette's Rolling Mill [Enterprise], Darling, Dotterer & Co's Machine Shop, Eckert's Furnace [Henry Clay], Johnston's Foundry [Franklin], Philadelphia & Reading R. R. Co. Shops, Sabbatin's Forge, Seyfert, McManus & Co's Rolling Mill.

Locksmith Shops: John Mellert, John Miller.

Marble Works: John F. Moers, John T. Craig, Ferdinand H. Strecker.

Organ Factories: Daniel Bohler, John Schoener.

Potteries: Asaph Shenfelder, William Wells.

Rope Walks: Thomas Jackson, Stephan Orth.

Saddleries: George Frees, Jacob H. Hain, Andrew Fichthorn, Henry Hahs, Gideon Weiser.

Saw Mills: Boas & Spangler, J. V. Craig, Foos & Bingaman.

Shoe Factories: H. F. Felix & Co., Henry Fry, Jacob Goodhart, O'Brien & Foster.

Silversmith Shops: Frederick Grotevent, Charles L. Heizmann, George Heller, Levan Mannerback, Otto Ralle.

Soap and Candle Factories: John R. Klein, Albert Fischer.

Tanneries: Henry Connard, Andrew, Charles & William Fichthorn, Abraham Kerper, George Winters.

Tin and Copper-smith shops: F. & W. Bright, Jacob Long, Morris Pauli, Charles K. Snell, Daniel Smith.

Turner Shops: Joseph Bitting, Charles Young.

Wheelwright Shops: Jacob Goodman, Henry Goodman, Reuben Goodman.

Weaving Shops: George Goodman, George Price, Philip Rush.

The following must also be mentioned, because they contributed a great deal towards the prosperity of Reading:

Banks: Farmers' Bank, and Branch Bank of Pennsylvania.

Builders: William Call, N. M. Eisenhower, George Foos, Benjamin Fink, John Fink, Jacob Fritz, Wm and Joseph Henry, Wm. B. Hertzell, John and Frederick Printz, and Solomon Spohn.

Merchants: Philip Albright, John Allgaier, Marks John Biddle, Boas, Lott & Co., D. R. Clymer, William and Peter Coleman, Lewis Briner, Baum & Sands, Samuel Ermentrout, Wm. Ermentrout, Fasig & Henry, Wm. S. Fisher, Fricker & Stout, John Green, Hoff & Bro, George Feather, Hart & Mayer, Johnson & Templin, Keely & Kerper, Wm. & John Keim, Michael Keffer, Frank Miller, J. & C. M. Pearson, Alexander Peacock, Wm. Rhoads & Son, Francis Roland, Stichter & McKnight, John Ritter & Co., Seyfert & Miner, Frank B. Shalters, David R. Schultz, E. D. Smith, Weitzel & Bro., Philip Zieber.

The following women were in business then, all conducting millinery establishments, and several including trimmings and notions: Mrs. Catharine Andrews, (Barbara) Babb & (Catharine) Wanner, Mrs. Rachel Boyer, Helen Dwight, Mrs. Amanda Heller, Mrs. Mary Marsh, Mrs. Hannah Phillippi, Catharine Price, Deborah Potts, Mrs. Elizabeth Reamer (Norton), Ellen Richards, Mrs. Red, Mrs. Runyeon, (Mrs. Susan) Rapp & (Mrs. Catharine) Harvey, Mrs. Harriet Smith (Kutz.)

Hotels: Herman Beard, Wm. Behm, John W. Burkhart, John Darrah, Andrew Davis, Wm. L. de Bourbon, Isaac Enis, Jacob Frill, George Gernant, Samuel Graul, Daniel Herr, John Mellon, John Messersmith, John Moyer, Michael Nunnemacher, Philip Orth, Peter Phillippi, Wm. Rapp, Solomon Spohn, Harry Weldy.

Surviving Business Men of 1847.—There are still at Reading the following men who were engaged in business here before 1850, and have continued doing business until the present time:

William Behm, Adam Bertrand, John F. Boyer, Charles Breneiser, Henry Bushong, William N. Coleman, Henry Drum, F. G. Dwight, Jeremiah Hagenman, John M. Hangen, Henry A. Hoff, Samuel R. Lessig, Matthias Mengel, Jacob Miller,

Henry Rhein, Simon Seyfert, David Schultz, S. S. Stevens, Horatio Trexler, Jacob Walters, Samuel L. Young.

And the following were in business here before 1850 but, after having followed their respective callings for many years afterward, they are now living in retirement:

George Ammon, D. Llewellyn Beaver, David E. Benson, William Bingaman, William Call, Henry Crouse, J. Depuy Davis, William Donahower, Peter S. Ermold, Andrew Fichthorn, John Fink, Franklin Fricker, George W. Garst, Reuben Goodhart, William Hagy, George W. Hantsch, Adam Heilman, Benneville Hemmig, Charles Henninger, William B. Hertzell, Jacob C. Hoff, William Keely, John Keppelman, Sr., Henry Kerper, John Kissinger, John M. Kissinger, William H. Norton, Artemus Orth, Henry A. Otto, Francis Rambo, Owen O'Reilly, Adam Schwenk, Edward D. Smith, Ernst Strohdach, John Strohecker, William Templin, Solomon Weida, George Yeager, John E. Yeager.

Cause of Development.—By the foregoing details it is apparent that the community then possessed a remarkable spirit of enterprise, and that this spirit, stimulated by coal, steam and iron, caused the development of Reading in its industrial, financial and social affairs. The shops and factories were numerous and diversified, and they together transacted annually a large volume of business. The establishments were mostly small, and employed only several mechanics. The iron works, however, were large and afforded employment to a considerable number of hands, especially the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Co. shops, and the Seyfert, McManus & Co. rolling mill. The major part of their production was shipped away by railroad, canal, stage and private conveyances, more particularly cigars, iron articles and wool hats.

From 1850 to 1860, a number of large establishments were erected, notably the cotton mill, woolen mill, and iron works of different kinds. When the Civil War arose, there was a sudden increased demand for all kinds of articles, and necessarily the factories and shops were enlarged, besides being increased in number. The statistics for the decade from 1860 to 1870, if published, would show an enormous volume of business. The railroad facilities for shipping goods were improved to answer the increasing demands of the manufacturers.

It would be very interesting to describe in detail the development of the industrial life at Reading in its various channels until the present time, but the space allotted to this chapter will not permit it to be done. The status at the beginning of 1898, fifty years after the incorporation of the city, is far beyond that of 1847. This will be made apparent by comparing the foregoing statement with the following. The improvement is truly wonderful, and the people of Reading can show a pardonable pride in its manufacturing concerns to which it is chiefly indebted for the great increase of its wealth and population.

It must be stated in this connection that a similar improvement was made in the dry goods establishments. Some of them have grown into large department stores, notably Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart, C. K. Whitner & Co., Kline, Eppihimer & Co., J. Mould & Co., J. C. Illig & Bro., J. S. Shade & Sons. Most of the stores at Reading from 1750 to 1825 were practically what the large department stores are to-day, the difference being in the amount of stock carried. Then the value was from \$3,000 to \$30,000; now it is from \$30,000 to \$300,000. After 1825, as population increased, they carried distinct lines of goods, and this has been continued until now. The department stores began here in 1876.

PART III.—INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

The following tabulated statement is presented to give the reader an idea of the varied character of industries at Reading in 1898. The several enterprises are briefly described to show when they were introduced, and how and by whom carried on, as near as the facts could be ascertained by interrogating numerous persons who were actively engaged in business both before and after 1847. They will be treated in the order in which they appear in the table. In many instances, information was not furnished as to investment and annual volume of business, and on that account the total capital and production in the manufacturing business at Reading are not given, much as it was desired by the compiler to do so. The figures given were correct at the time of describing the respective industries. In many cases, however, they are known to fluctuate more or less, this being caused by parties embarking in enterprises and then suspending operations. The total number exceeds five hundred.

TABLE OF INDUSTRIES 1898.

Agricultural Implements	2	Galvanizing and Nickel-plating	2
Badges	2	Gas	1
Baking, Bread etc.	53	Glass	1
Baking, Bretzels	5	Glue	1
Baking, Crackers	2	Green-houses	6
Baskets and Willow ware	2	Gun making	2
Bending Works	1	Hats and Caps	
Bicycle Works	8	Wool	6
Boat-Building	1	Fur	5
Book-Binding	3	Caps	1
Boxes, Cigar	5	Horse collars	2
Boxes, Paper	5	Ice	6
Boxes, Packing cases	1	Ice Cream	7
Braids and Trimmings	1	Iron (48)	
Brass Works	7	Boilers	6
Breweries and Bottling Works.	13	Boiler plate	1
Brick, Building and Paving	8	Bolts, Nuts, etc.	3
Brick, Fire	2	Cutlery and Edge Tools	2
Brick, Vitrified	2	Engines	4
Brooms	10	Fences and Grill work	3
Brushes	4	Files	1
Candies	5	Fire escapes	1
Carpets	8	Furnaces	3
Carriages, Wagons and Wheels	7	Hardware	3
Cement Paving	3	Knitting Machines	2
Cigars	110	Machinery	5
Clothing	5	Nails	1
Cold Storage	2	P. & R. Works	4
Cotton Goods		Pig	2
Muslin	1	Pipes	2
Batting	1	Projectiles and Steel	1
Hosiery	18	Radiators	1
Underwear	1	Sheet	1
Handkerchiefs	1	Stoves and Heaters	2
Aprons, dresses and waists	1	Jewelry	3
Overalls	1	Laundries	15
Creameries	3	Leather (tanned)	3
Department Stores	6	Malt	2
Electricity, Construction	9	Marble and Granite Works	4
Electricity, Light and Power	1	Mattresses	1
Express Companies	2	Metallic Cornices	3
Express, Local	20	Oil Refinery	1
Fertilizers	1	Optical Instruments	1
Fire Apparatus	1	Organs and pianos	—
Flour	2	Paints	4
Furniture	—	Paper, Book and Manilla	3

Paper Bags	2	Soap and Candles	2
Patterns	1	Spalls and Sand	5
Perfumery	3	Spectacles	1
Photographs and Portraits	8	Spices	1
Picture Frames, Gilding, etc.	2	Stained Glass	2
Planing Mills	7	Steam Heating	1
Potteries	1	Stencils and Rubber Stamps	2
Pulleys	1	Terra Cotta Ware	1
Ropes, Cordage, etc.	1	Tin Plate	1
Rubber Tires	1	Trunks	1
Shirts	7	Umbrellas	1
Shoes	1	Washing Machines	3
Silk	1	Woolen Goods	3

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Agricultural implements were made at Reading at an early period and continued to be for one hundred and twenty-five years. Before 1840 this branch of industry was carried on extensively by different individuals; among them Adam Waid, Jacob Ahrens and M. Kirkpatrick. Samuel Lessig began in 1849, and continued until 1887.

Lessig Bros..—In 1858, Matthias Raser, of Reading, invented the first lever horse-rake. Lessig then obtained a half interest in the invention, and in 1859 improved it. For ten years he manufactured and sold large numbers of them. He was succeeded by his sons, George and Charles, in 1887, and they have carried on business since then. By competition and the introduction of implements from the west, their productions are confined to fodder-cutters and cultivators which they produce in limited quantities. Their business is mostly general repairs.

Knoll & Althouse.—James H. Knoll and Nathan S. Althouse, trading as Knoll & Althouse, have made cultivators and fodder cutters since 1886. For some years, they produced large quantities and shipped them to different parts of the country; but since 1895 they have gradually directed their attention to washing machines, in which connection the plant is described. Their annual production in implements amounts to \$3000.

BADGES.

Reading Ribbon Badge Co..—Julius Weber began the manufacture of badges in Exeter township in a limited way before 1860. In 1876 he removed to Reading and established the business at Eleventh and Spruce streets, where he erected a two-

story brick factory, adding the making of flags and banners. The business was carried on under the name of Reading Ribbon Badge Co., and, Mr. Weber dying in 1896, has been continued since by his widow, with their son, Harry C. Weber, as manager. The factory is equipped with the finest machinery, and has a capacity for 10,000 badges a week. During 1897 the total number manufactured for various societies and parades was 250,000. The amount invested is \$15,000. Twenty hands are employed constantly, this number increasing occasionally to thirty. Hot press, steel and copper-plate printing, lithographing, embossing and stamping are also carried on extensively in the same building, for which the best machinery is used. In this department there are 10 employees.

Keystone Ribbon Badge Co.—Richard H. Bortle and James E. Norton began making ribbon badges in 1893 and traded as the Keystone Ribbon Badge Co. until January 1, 1898. They manufactured all kinds of society emblems and jewels, silk flags, banners and regalias and employed six hands. Mr. Bortle then became sole proprietor and he has continued the business.

BAKERIES.

From the beginning of the town until the canals were put into operation for traffic, the baking of bread, pies and cakes was a common custom with all the housekeepers; then the business of supplying the public with these articles was introduced and regularly carried on. In the past sixty-five years, it has grown to great proportions, there being now 53 bakers. The establishments described are the largest and most important of the kind at Reading.

One of the first persons at Reading to make and sell bread, pies and cakes was J. Gottfried Eben and his bakery was situated on the northeast corner of Second and Penn streets. He emigrated from Germany in 1831 and then located at Reading. He conducted the business successfully at that place, and on premises now 637 Penn street, until his decease in 1857.

Other persons early in this business were Mollie Beyerle, Charles Francis and David Goodfellow, who mostly supplied boatmen. Daniel Mayer and Christian Mayer carried it on extensively for many years.

BREAD MAKING.

Henry Schofer Bakery.—Henry Schofer began baking in 1875 at 219 North Eighth street in a small way, delivering bread, pies and cakes with a hand cart. He gradually extended the business until he has made it the largest of the kind at Reading. He employs 35 hands; also 9 teams for delivering the production in Reading, and in Berks and the adjoining counties. The actual out-put for 1897 was 873,645 loaves of bread, 225,760 pies, 62,450 dozen raised buns, etc., and large quantities of fancy and wedding cakes, which required 4,163 barrels of flour. He has in use the most improved machinery.

Mertz Bakery.—In 1846, George Groetzinger established a bakery at Chestnut and Plum streets. He died several years afterward, and his family carried it on until 1873, when the business was sold to G. Frederick Mertz, who had worked in the establishment for five years previously, serving his apprenticeship there. Two hands were employed then and one delivery wagon. Mr. Mertz continued the bakery until April 1, 1898, during the 25 years enlarging the plant and coming to employ 7 hands, to run 4 teams and to consume over 20 barrels of flour weekly. He then transferred the business to his son, Albert. The trade is entirely with customers at Reading.

Deem Bakery.—C. M. Deem, after serving one term as Alderman of Second ward, from 1880 to 1885, embarked in the general baking business at 710 Chestnut street. He has continued until now. He employs 4 hands, runs 2 teams, and consumes about 15 barrels of flour weekly. Trade is local.

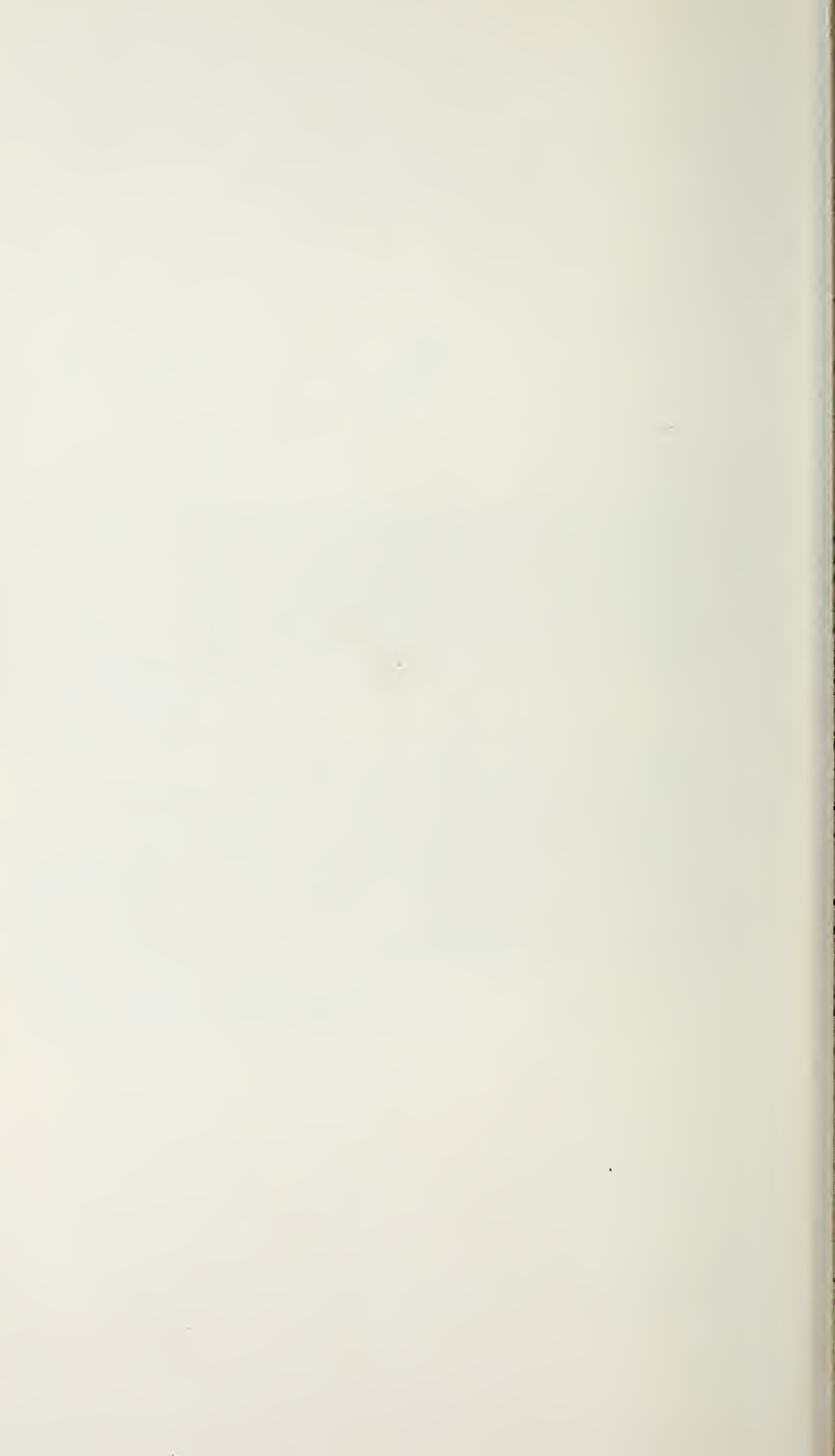
Goodman Bakery.—Howard L. Goodman began a general bakery in 1882 at Franklin and Lemon streets. Since then he has been very successful, employing now 16 persons, and delivering bread, etc., in Reading with 5 wagons.

Miller Bakery.—In 1889, James A. Schofer and William S. Miller, as Schofer & Miller, started a bakery at 931 Douglass street, and carried on the business until 1891, when they dissolved partnership. Mr. Miller has continued it until now. He employs 8 men, has 3 delivery teams, and consumes 20 barrels of flour weekly.

James A. Schofer Bakery.—James A. Schofer engaged in the bakery business in 1894 at 108 South Fifth street, directing his



BAKERY OF HENRY SCHOFER.



attention chiefly to pastry and fancy cakes, and also catering. Hands employed, 11; teams, 3; flour consumed, 7 barrels weekly.

CRACKER BAKING.

Wertz Factory.—Frederick S. and Augustus C. Wertz, trading as F. S. Wertz & Co., started the manufacture of crackers and cakes at 120 South Third street in 1879 with 5 hands, and they consumed about 4 barrels of flour daily. They continued the business successfully until February, 1898, greatly increasing their production and extending their sales through Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland. Employees, 40 to 50; investment, \$45,000; annual wages, \$15,000; and annual product, \$100,000. They then sold their business to the National Biscuit Co. of Chicago, Ill., with A. C. Wertz as manager.

Mitchell Factory.—David Mitchell began the manufacture of crackers and confectionery in 1853, and the business has been carried on until now. The production is sold in all parts of Pennsylvania. Employees, 11.

Others, engaged in this branch of baking business, are C. A. Muntz, Andrew Denschelmann and Addison Geyer.

BRETZEL BAKING.

Lichtenthaeler Factory.—In 1860, Benjamin Lichtenthaeler began the manufacture of cracker bretzels of a superior character which became very popular and he carried on the business at 37 Apple street successfully until his decease in 1893. During that time he developed a very large trade with an annual product of about 2000 barrels. Since his death, the business has been continued by the Lichtenthaeler Bretzel Co.

Hendricks & Adams Factory.—John S. Hendricks and John T. Adams were employed in the Lichtenthaeler factory for many years until 1893, when they started in the business for themselves at 335 Cherry street and there they have carried it on successfully until now. They employ 8 men, operate 2 ovens and manufacture over 4000 barrels annually. Investment, \$5,000; annual product, \$12,000.

BASKETS.

Cook Factory.—In 1867 John Cook began making baskets of all kinds and sizes out of willow, reed and rattan. In 1872, he

took his son George S. into partnership and they have traded since as J. Cook & Son. Their trade is local. They employ two hands and produce annually 5000 baskets.

Wunder Factory.—William L. Wunder began making willow ware, consisting of baskets and baby carriages, in 1883 at 529 Penn square. He has continued in the same location until now, employing 3 hands and forwarding large quantities into all parts of the country.

BENDING WORKS.

Leippe Works.—In 1859 Jacob A. Leippe started a bending works at Lancaster, and, after carrying it on until 1880, removed to Reading where he established his enterprise at Second and Franklin streets. He manufactured carriage shafts and rims. He died in 1888 when his sons, J. Harry and Charles E., succeeded him, who have since traded under the name of Jacob A. Leippe's Sons. They selected the "anchor" as their trade mark, and so named the works. Their business has been extended until now they ship goods to all parts of the United States, South America, Europe, Africa and Australia. Investment, \$40,000; employees, 50; annual wages, \$20,000; and product, \$60,000.

BICYCLES.

The credit of introducing the bicycle business at Reading is due to W. Irving Wilhelm. He began making repairs to bicycles in 1886, in the machine shop of his father, W. Harry Wilhelm, at the foot of Bingaman street, and in 1889 the establishment turned out the first bicycles, called the "Wilhelm." The business was carried on there until 1894, when he removed to Hamburg and erected a factory at that place.



John G. Xander was in Wilhelm's employ for a while; then started a bicycle repair shop. After continuing this for several years, he began making a bicycle called the "Neversink" in a small factory at Fourth and Cherry streets. This was in 1891. And

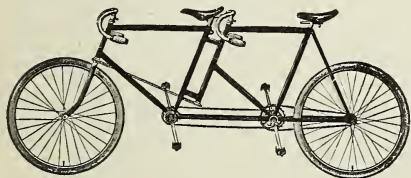
in 1892 the Acme Bicycle Co. was formed by James C. Reber for manufacturing the "Stormer." From this beginning, a business was instituted at Reading that developed wonderfully, and in ten years the capital invested was nearly \$400,000; employees, 1,200; wages, \$500,000; production, 58,000 bicycles worth \$1,750,000, which were shipped by the several establishments to all parts of the world.



The bicycle was introduced at Reading in 1880; and the first five were brought here by Edward E. Stetson, Frederick H. Muhlenberg, Paul D. Millholland, Charles G. Willson and Harry O. Koller, in the order named. Now it is believed that there are 5,000 in use. The first woman rider here was Mrs. W. Irving Wilhelm, and the next, Miss Abdullah Jack, (now the wife of Charles R. Guldin) who became a very expert rider.

In 1883 the first bicycle club was organized, called the "Reading" and when it disbanded in 1888, it had sixty members. It was succeeded in that year by the "Penn." The

"Electric" was formed in 1895; the "American" and "South End" in 1897. All of them have a large membership.

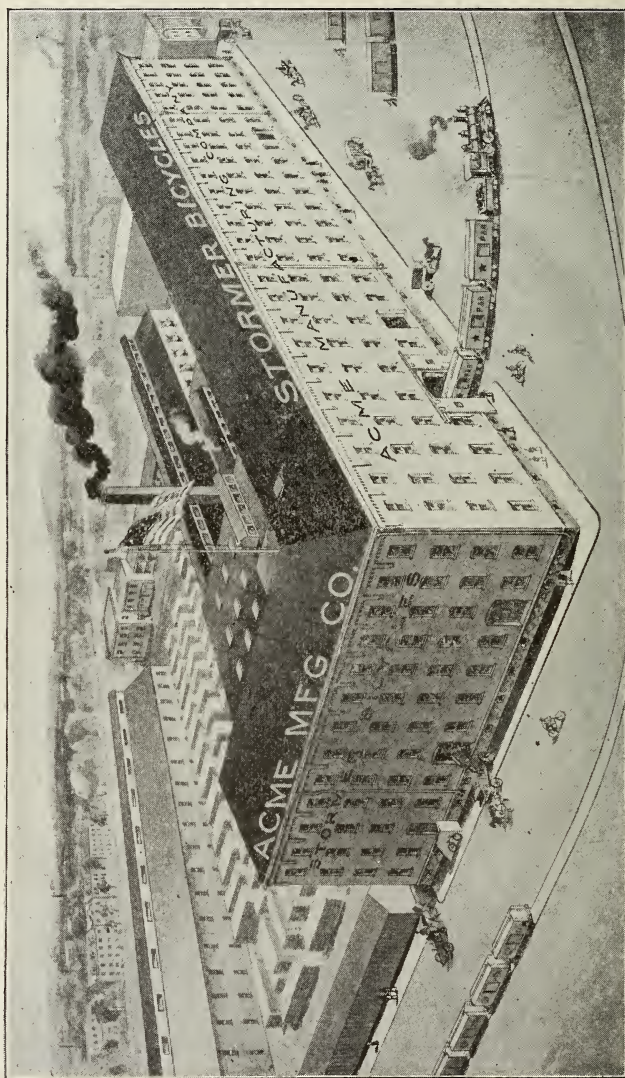


The first bicycle meet was held by the "Read-

ing" club in the Fair Grounds at the head of Penn street in 1885. Others were held since, which were largely patronized.

Acme Manufacturing Co. was organized in 1892 by James C. Reber and the manufacture of the "Stormer" bicycle was started in a factory at Fourth and Cherry streets. In 1894 the factory was transferred into larger quarters on Court near Tenth street to accommodate the increasing business, and the company was incorporated with a capital of \$100,000. In 1896 a superior large brick structure was erected by the company at Elm and Poplar streets to supply the great demands for its bicycles, evidencing their popularity in all parts of the world. Employ-

ees from 500 to 600; annual wages over \$250,000; production for 1897, 31,000 bicycles. Officers: James T. Reber, president;

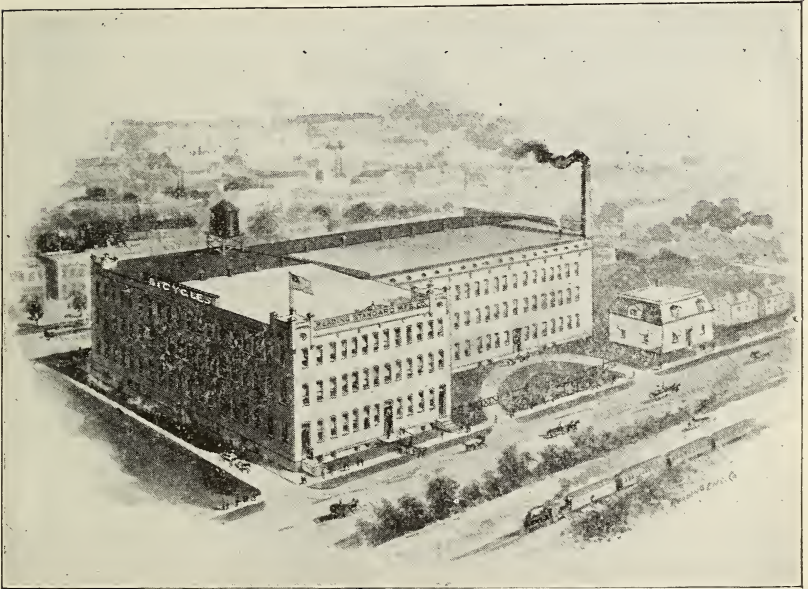


ACME BICYCLE WORKS.

Morris B. Reber, secretary; James C. Reber, treasurer and manager.

Relay Manufacturing Co. was organized in 1892 by John R. Miller and George Ziegler and started with 6 hands, making the "Relay" bicycle on Cherry near Fourth street. The business increased rapidly and the factory was removed to 753 Cherry street in 1893. After remaining there two years, larger quarters had to be provided, and a brick building at 208 Maple street was purchased, improved and equipped with the best machinery, where the business is now carried on. The product is shipped to all parts of the world. Annual production, 10,000 bicycles; employees from 150 to 200; annual wages, \$65,000. Pres., John R. Miller; sec., Keyser Fry; treas., J. W. Minnig.

Reading Standard Manufacturing Co. was organized in 1896 for the manufacture of the "Reading Standard" bicycle. The factory is situated on River street above the Lancaster bridge, in the Remppis Iron Works building. Investment \$100,000;



READING STANDARD MANUFACTURING CO.

employees, 150; annual wages, \$55,000; annual product, 10,000 bicycles, which are forwarded to all parts of the world, but principally United States, England and Germany. Officers: William F. Remppis, pres.; Thomas P. Merritt, treas.

Packer Cycle Co.—G. D. Packer, of New York, came to Reading in 1895, and began manufacturing bicycles on Cherry near Eighth street, trading as the Packer Cycle Co. During 1897, the factory employed from 50 to 75 hands, and produced 3,000 bicycles, which were forwarded to all parts of the United States. Investment, \$20,000; annual business, \$75,000; annual wages, \$13,000.

Keystone Cycle Co. was organized in 1895, by Evan L. Shomo, Milton L. Ritter, D. Wellington Dietrich, Frank R. Wagner and Herbert R. Green, for the manufacture of bicycles. Their particular makes are the "Spin-away" and "Kyte." The factory is situated in West Reading. They manufacture 7,000 wheels annually, which are shipped to all parts of the world. Investment, \$40,000; employees, 75; and annual wages, \$20,000. Officers: Evan L. Shomo, pres.; D. Wellington Dietrich, sec.; M. L. Ritter, treas.

Reading Cycle Manufacturing Co. was organized in 1896 for the manufacture of bicycles named the "Vindex" and "Vindex Grand." The company has manufactured 5,000 annually, and shipped them to all parts of the world. Employees, 150; annual wages, \$75,000; product, \$200,000; investment, \$75,000. The factory is located at Tenth and Exeter streets. Officers: H. C. England, pres.; D. J. Driscoll, treas.; and George A. Heckman, sec.

Millholland Tube Works.—In 1893, this company was incorporated with a capital of \$20,000 for the manufacture of high grade bicycle tubing and established its works along the Lebanon Valley railroad at Gordon street. It employs 50 hands and has an annual product of \$100,000, which is disposed of mostly to bicycle establishments at Reading. Many orders are also shipped to different parts of the country. Officers: W. Brayton McKnight, president; Henry Millholland, treasurer and general manager.

McConnell Bicycle Bell Factory.—In 1893 Joseph F. McConnell and Miller M. Deem began nickel-plating, polishing and manufacturing brass castings and metal specialties on Court below Second street in a limited way. In 1894 they removed to Eighth and Oley streets where the business is now carried on by Mr. McConnell. In 1897, the McConnell bicycle bell was

added to the list of specialties. Orders are shipped to all parts of the United States and Europe. Investment, \$6,000; employees, 30; annual wages, \$12,000; product, \$30,000.

BOAT BUILDING.

Before the completion of the Schuylkill canal, grain, wool hats, whiskey and various manufactured articles were shipped by flat-bottomed boats on the river to Philadelphia, which were generally floated down by the current of the stream. These boats were made at Reading but the business was limited in extent. After the canal had been put into operation, boat-building became an established industry, and a number of docks or yards were carried on successfully for many years. The boats varied in size, extending in capacity from 80 to 200 tons. The docks were located along the canal from a point several hundred feet beyond the Leb. Val. R. R. bridge to Jackson's Lock at the foot of Sixth street. The prominent builders were Samuel Krauser, David Ely, Wm. Hiester, Peter Krick, Adam Waid, Wm. Call and Jerome Ringler. Hiester's son John has continued the business until now. His dock is opposite the gas works. He built the last boat in 1889. Since then he has been engaged mostly in repairing boats. He built several steam-boats for excursion purposes in conveying persons to the several resorts along the river between Reading and the big dam, and runs them every year during the summer season.

BOOK BINDERIES.

Isaac W. Harper moved from Philadelphia to Reading in 1835 and established the first book bindery which he conducted until his death in 1874. His place of business was at 647 Penn street for 35 years. Mr. Harper also established the first circulating library at Reading, and carried it on until he died. He had from 3,000 to 4,000 books.

George Kesserling was next to engage in the business. His place was on South Sixth street near Penn, and he continued there until 1858. He then sold out to Christian Fried who carried it on until 1886. His factory for the greater part of the time was on Cherry near Seventh street.

Taenzer Bros.—Engel Bros. came from New Orleans to Reading in 1869, and were extensive book-binders until 1885.

They were located on Penn street below Fourth. Taenzer Bros. succeeded them, and have been engaged in the business until now at 420 Court street.

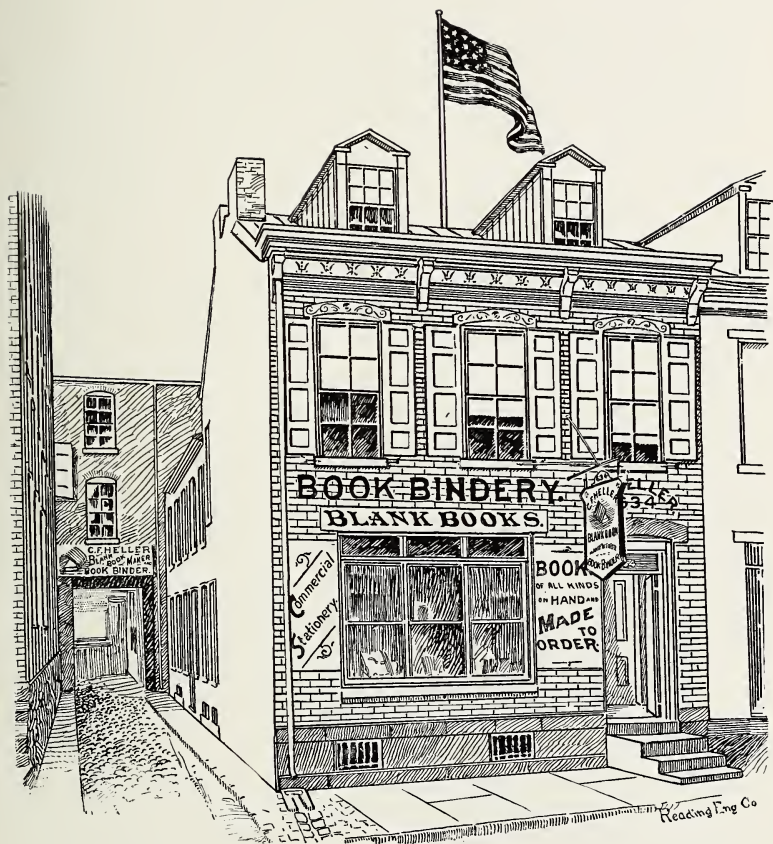
Heller.—John L. Oberlies established a book-bindery in the rear portion of the Keystone hotel on the second floor in 1881, and carried it on for two years when he sold the business to Charles F. Heller who conducted it there until 1889, when he removed to 632 Washington street. He started with 3 hands and now employs from 15 to 20. He manufactures all kinds of blank, printed and general book work. Investment, \$10,000. His factory is equipped with the latest machinery and appliances. It is the largest in Reading.

Wonnberger.—Herman C. Wonnberger began in 1894 at Sixth and Walnut streets, and continued there until February, 1898, when he removed to 47 Reed street. He started with 4 hands, now he employs 14. He manufactures blank books of all kinds, and does the business of a general book binder. Investment, \$4,000; annual product, \$6,000.

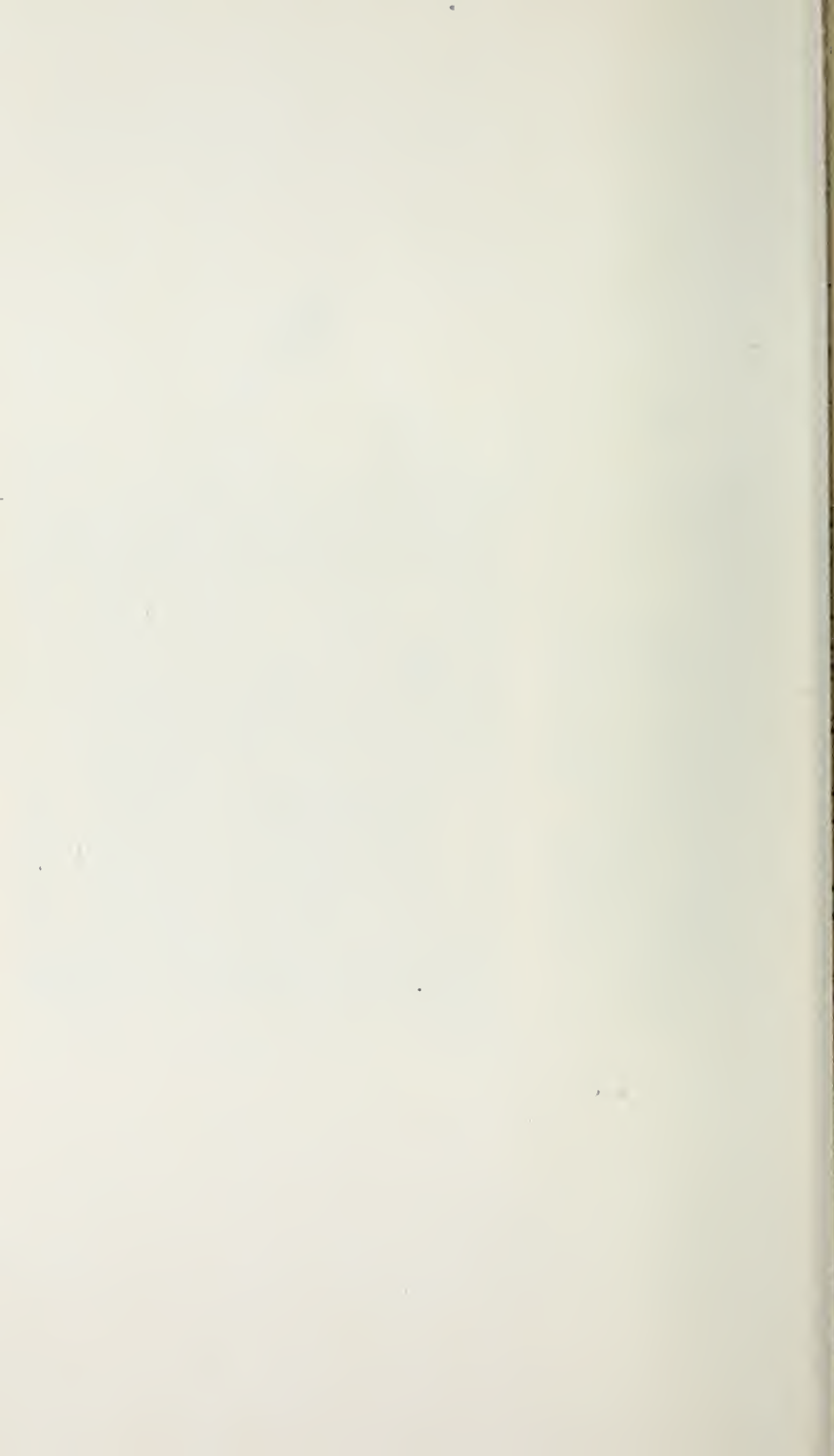
BOX FACTORIES.—CIGAR BOXES.

Thalheimer Factory.—Albert Thalheimer learned the manufacturing of cigar boxes at Philadelphia with Frederick Brecht. He came to Reading in 1866, and began business for himself in a small way at Ninth and Elm streets. He traveled through different sections of this and the adjoining counties, soliciting orders which he filled upon returning home. In 1868 he located at 143 Cedar street; employed 6 hands, and produced 800 boxes weekly. He has continued there until the present time, having enlarged the factory four times to meet the growing demands of his trade. He now employs 60 hands and produces 12,000 boxes weekly. Investment, \$40,000; annual wages, \$12,000; and product, \$50,000. In 1895, his son Emanuel became a partner, the firm trading as A. Thalheimer & Son. Their trade extends through Pennsylvania and a part of New York. They have secured various patents for manufacturing cigar makers' supplies, in which they do an extensive business.

For a number of years, Frederick Brecht was the oldest cigar-box maker in the United States and Mr. Thalheimer the second oldest. Mr. Brecht died in the Fall of 1847 and since that time Mr. Thalheimer has been the oldest.



BOOK BINDERY OF CHARLES F. HELLER.



Fichthorn Factory.—E. R. Fichthorn engaged in the manufacture of cigar boxes in 1878 on Cherry near Third street. In 1892 he removed to 145 Pearl street, and has continued there until the present time. He produces 4000 boxes weekly, which are supplied to local cigar manufacturers. Investment, \$5,000; annual product, \$10,000; and wages, \$3,500.

Boyer & Heilig Factory.—In 1886, Andrew S. Boyer and George W. Heilig, trading as Boyer & Heilig, started making cigar boxes with 2 men, and a daily production of 300 boxes. The factory is at 202 Cedar street. They now employ 25 persons and produce 1500 boxes daily. Investment \$10,000; annual wages, \$5,000; product, \$30,000. Trade local.

Brown Bros.—In 1890 Nathan Y. Brown and Willard Edgett began manufacturing cigar boxes, and continued until 1893, when they dissolved, Edgett remaining at Seventh and Court streets, and Brown removing to Sixth and Cherry streets where he continued the business as N. Y. Brown & Co., until 1897. He employed 20 to 25 hands and produced daily 1200 boxes. In May, 1897, the factory was removed to Eighth and Spring streets, where it has remained until now with the same number of hands and the same production. Investment, \$2,500; annual wages, \$8,000; product, \$18,000. Business mostly local.

Edgett Factory.—Willard Edgett began in 1893. His factory is at Seventh and Court streets: He turns out daily from 1200 to 1500 boxes, and employs 15 hands.

PAPER BOXES.

Weber Factory.—In 1853, Julius Weber began making paper boxes for packing and shipping hats, and this business has continued until now, being carried on in connection with Badge-Making. Employees, 10; product, 50 dozen daily, which are supplied to hat manufacturers at Reading.

Standard Paper Box Co.—In 1875 Abraham Trate began making paper hat boxes at 627 South Sixth street, and continued the business until 1890. He was succeeded by his son-in-law John H. Johnson, who removed the factory to 517 South Fifth street and carried it on until 1894, (excepting several months by Dotts & Jennings.) The Standard Paper Box Co. was then

formed by Daniel, Irwin, Ella and Lucy Huyett. They purchased the plant and have conducted it until now. They manufacture all kinds of paper boxes; produce 30,000 weekly and employ 30 hands; annual business, \$20,000.

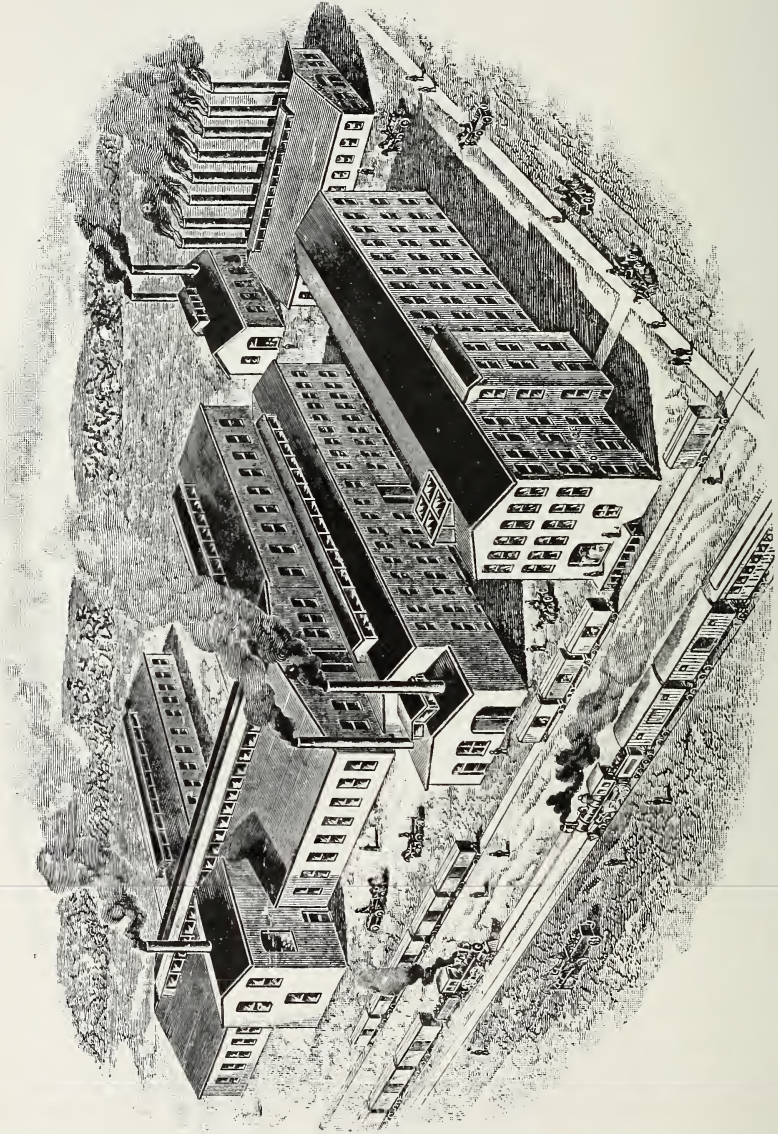
Engle Factory.—William H. Engle started making all kinds of paper boxes in 1886, at 443 South Fifth street, employing only 2 hands, and producing 600 boxes monthly. In 1893, he established his factory in the Yocum building, Seventh and Walnut streets. He employs 40 hands and operates 14 machines and makes exclusively boxes for small hardware. Annual wages, \$6,000; product, 125,000 boxes, which are delivered to the Reading Hardware Co.

Reading Paper Box Co. was formed in 1892 by Louis Kraemer, Louis F. Kraemer, George A. Wanner, J. Edward Wanner, Howard P. Wanner, F. S. Livingood and Charles M. Steinmetz for manufacturing paper boxes of all kinds. A large local trade has been developed, and 30 persons are employed. The business is carried on at 239 Cedar street. The company was incorporated with a capital of \$12,500. Officers:—J. Ed. Wanner, pres.; George A. Wanner, sec. and treas.; C. M. Steinmetz, manager.

Mt. Penn Paper Box Co. was organized in 1894 by Reuben Sindel, J. A. Sindel, E. H. Sindel, John Stott and William D. Jesberg, for the manufacture of paper boxes of all kinds and sizes. They began operations with 15 hands at 527 South Sixth street, producing 10,000 boxes weekly. In 1895 they removed to a large factory at 311 Bingham street. They employ 22 hands, and produce 15,000 boxes weekly, which they deliver mostly to local trade.

WOODEN BOXES.

Deysher Factory.—Jacob H. Deysher was a lumber dealer at Reading from 1845 to 1860; then he started a box factory on Third street below Pine and carried it on until his decease in 1888. He started with 1 hand and in 1888 he had 15 hands. His widow, Mrs. Annie K. Deysher, continued the business until 1894 when it was transferred to their son, Abner S. Deysher. The product is wooden boxes, used for shipping hats; also crates for bicycles.



NATIONAL BRASS AND IRON WORKS.

BRAIDS AND TRIMMINGS.

Reading Braid Co. was organized in 1894 by the persons constituting the Reading Paper Box Co., for making braids and trimmings of all kinds. Their place of business is in the factory of that company, and they have developed a large trade which extends throughout the United States. Investment, \$30,000; employees, 75; annual wages, \$10,000. The company was incorporated. Officers: F. S. Livingood, pres.; C. M. Steinmetz, sec. and treas.; Frederick W. Klein, superintendent.

BRASS WORKS*

Brass foundries have been carried on by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad company at Seventh and Franklin streets in connection with the machine shop since its erection there in 1838. Besides the general brass work done, all the engine bells used on the roads were cast there. Calvin Goodman was foreman of that department from 1860 to 1886, when he resigned to fill the position of postmaster of Reading.

A foundry of this kind has been conducted with the machine shop of Davies, Printz & Co., since its erection; also by the Reading Hardware Works, and Penn Hardware Works.

Connard Foundry.—In 1853 James L. Douglas, an expert machinist of Reading, began the manufacture of brass castings and general machinery at Sixth and Chestnut streets. In 1854 Henry Connard associated with him and from that time until 1896 they carried on business under the name of Douglas & Connard, when Mr. Douglas withdrew from the firm. The enterprise was started with two brass furnaces, which were increased to seven. Previous to 1860 there was a much greater variety of general machinery work done than since that time. Men employed, 15; investment, \$50,000; annual wages, \$10,000.

National Brass and Iron Works was incorporated in 1891, by Hiram K. Getz, Harvey H. Shomo, John G. Mohn, William H. Mohn and W. W. Light, for manufacturing art metal goods such as lamps, tables, cabinets, mirrors, frames, decorative globes, statuettes, etc. and electroplating in all its forms. They established a large plant at Green and Tulpehocken streets, adjoining the Lebanon Valley railroad, with an investment of \$185,000; annual product, \$225,000, and wages, \$50,000. They

employ 150 hands and ship goods to all parts of the United States, also Great Britain and colonies, with a foreign office at London. John G. Mohn is president and Harvey H. Shomo secretary and treasurer.

Reading Brass Foundry Co.—George W. Miller and Heber Buckwalter began January 1, 1897, manufacturing all kinds of brass gas fixtures at 120 Penn street for local trade. Employees 8; investment, \$1,500; annual product, \$10,000.

Excelsior Foundry.—Charles K. Dick and George A. Wicklein began January 1, 1897, trading as the Excelsior Brass Foundry and Pattern Works for the manufacture of all kinds of fancy brass castings, and soon developed a trade that extended into all parts of the country. Location on Eighth below Chestnut street; employees 5; product \$10,000.

Kline Foundry.—J. W. Kline started a brass foundry at Second and Beech streets in 1897, for manufacturing all kinds of aluminum and brass castings. Fine chandeliers are a specialty. He employs 10 hands.

BREWERIES.

The brewing business was carried on at Reading before 1770, but the beer was light in character, limited in quantity and wholly for local consumption. It was not carried on extensively until after 1847.

Lauer Brewery.—In 1823 George Lauer, a German from Bavaria, settled at Womelsdorf in Berks county, and began brewing beer and ale at that place. He removed to Reading in 1826, and established a brewery at Third and Chestnut streets, which he operated until 1835, when his son Frederick became the proprietor. The plant was enlarged gradually, and in 1866 an additional plant was started at Third and Elm streets. Mr. Lauer was a very enterprising man and showed much interest in the development of Reading. He died in 1883, and his sons, Frank P. and George F., succeeded him. The plants together constitute the largest brewing establishment at Reading. They are operated by the Lauer Brewing Co. An ice plant is carried on in connection with the brewery which produces about 50 tons of ice daily for local consumption. Total annual production of beer, porter and ale is 60,000 barrels, which are mostly delivered



BREWERY OF P. BARBEY & SON.

to customers at Reading, some being forwarded to Schuylkill county. Employees, 50. Investment, \$500,000.

Deppen's Brewery.—Nicholas A. Felix started a brewery in 1845 at Tenth and Chestnut streets, naming it "Spring Garden," for manufacturing beer, porter and ale, and conducted the same until his decease in 1874. The estate carried on the business for five years when Dr. William P. Deppen, his son-in-law, became the owner and he has operated the plant until now.

Keystone Brewery.—In 1850 Aaron D. Hoyer erected a brewery on Fourth near Elm street and he and his brother Joseph carried it on for some years. In 1877 Samuel C. Keller became the owner and after conducting it for seven years, Otto Eyring associated with him, trading as Keller & Eyring. The brewery is now operated by John Roehrich and George J. Raab. Employees 12; product, 9000 barrels of beer and porter which are sold in Reading and vicinity.

Barbey's Brewery.—Peter Barbey emigrated from Bavaria, Germany, to Philadelphia in 1857, and settled at Reading in 1859. In 1861 he started in the brewing business, establishing his plant at River and Hockley streets in 1869. His son John became a partner in 1880, the firm trading as P. Barbey & Son. The father died in 1897. The annual product of the brewery is 50,000 barrels of beer and porter, 75,000 bushels of malt, and 18,000 tons of ice, all delivered to customers at Reading and vicinity. Employees, 35.

Reading Brewing Co.—Henry S. Eckert, Jesse G. Hawley, Wm. Nolan, Lewis Kremp, Philip Bissinger and several others organized and incorporated the Reading Brewing Co., in 1886 with a capital of \$150,000. They established a superior plant on Ninth below Laurel street and have carried on the business until now. Employees 20; annual product 25,000 barrels, which is disposed of mostly to local customers, some being shipped to surrounding counties. Officers: Philip Bissinger, pres., Ferdinand Winter, treas., D. A. Wiegner, sec.

Stocker's Brewery.—John C. Stocker and John Roehrich began brewing in 1885 in Schuylkill county. They removed their business to Reading in 1891, establishing a plant at the northern boundary opposite the Fair Grounds. Mr. Roehrich retired

from the firm in 1897. Employees, 12; product, 7000 barrels of beer and porter, which are delivered to local customers.

Muhlenberg Brewery.—Simpson Becker, N. G. Rothermel, H. J. Seidel and others organized a brewing company in 1895 and had the same incorporated with a capital of \$75,000 under the name of Muhlenberg Brewing Co. They established their plant on the Kutztown road, within a mile beyond the northern limits of Reading. Employees, 12; product, 9,000 barrels of beer and porter which are delivered to customers in Berks and adjoining counties.

BOTTLING WORKS.

Fett & Son.—John Fehr was engaged in the bottling business on Cherry street below Seventh for some years previous to 1855, when he sold out to Herman Floto who removed the establishment to Seventh street above Franklin. He increased the business, added a brewery and continued until 1864, when he sold out to Christian Shick and John H. Fett. In 1865, they transferred the works to 31 and 35 North Ninth street. In 1887 Mr. Schick retired. Mr. Fett conducted the business two years, and then introduced his son John as a partner; who from that time have been trading as J. H. Fett & Son. They have 4 teams, and their trade extends throughout Berks County. During the summer season they bottle weekly about 30 barrels and manufacture 500 dozen bottles of sarsaparilla, ginger ale, soda, etc. Investment, \$22,000; annual wages, \$5,000.

Fries & Croessant.—G. William Fries and Herman J. Croessant began at 640 Cherry street in 1882. After remaining there a year, they removed to 215 Moss street. They employ 7 hands and 3 teams; bottle 20 barrels of beer, porter, etc.; and manufacture 500 dozen bottles of sarsaparilla, etc., weekly. Their trade is local. Investment, \$12,000; annual business \$10,000.

Fisher.—Adam W. Fisher started at 114 Penn street in 1887 with three hands, and bottled 10 barrels of beer, porter, ale, etc., weekly. He has continued the business until now, bottling the same quantity. Investment, \$6,000.

Excelsior.—T. J. Fessler and S. G. Dunkelberger, trading as Excelsior Bottling Co., began in 1894 at 37 Maple street.

They bottled weekly from 20 to 25 barrels of beer, porter and brown-stout, besides manufacturing 2,000 dozen bottles of ginger-ale, seltzer and carbonated drinks. Employees, 8; teams, 5; investment, \$17,000; annual business, \$25,000; wages, \$2,800.

Reading.—Frank B. Hay began bottling beer, porter and ale in 1895 at Fifth and Washington streets, trading as the Reading Bottling Works. Employees, 4 to 8; investment, \$14,000; trade throughout Eastern Pennsylvania.

Schaufert.—Jacob Schaufert started a bottling works on Madison avenue near Elm April 1, 1898. He employs 4 hands and bottles 10 barrels of beer, porter, &c., weekly, which are delivered to customers in Reading and surrounding districts.

BUILDING BRICK.

The business of manufacturing brick at Reading for building purposes was started about 1790. The buildings previous to that time were constructed of log, stone and frame; then brick began to be introduced. The first building of this material was a small one-story house on the southwest corner of Seventh and Washington streets. It was occupied by the First Reformed congregation for school purposes for many years. The next was the Trinity Lutheran church in 1791, afterward the "State House," the "Branch Bank," and the "Evans House" (125 South Fifth street.)

In 1840 there were at Reading nine kilns, which produced 2,777,000. In 1845, 7,040,000 were made by 14 manufacturers; and in 1846, 9,208,800 by 17, with 127 employees.

Printz Kilns.—John H. Printz started making common brick in 1854. From that time until 1865 he had as a partner Michael Sands; afterward Daniel D. Graul. In 1877 J. L. Moyer became a partner and they traded as Printz, Graul & Co. until 1880. In 1883 he admitted his son Thomas and his son-in-law, George B. Clouser, as partners, and they have since traded as J. H. Printz & Co. Thomas Printz died in 1896. Their plant is at Sixth and Spring streets. They employ from 75 to 100 hands, and produce about 6,000,000 brick annually. They make hand-made, double-pressed, single-pressed and building brick; also ornamental building brick, having 150 different patterns,

and producing annually from 7,000 to 8,000. They have 3 large kilns. This is the only works in Pennsylvania besides those at Philadelphia where ornamental brick are made.

Kline Kilns.—Simon Kline began making brick at Reading in 1854, and he has continued actively in the business ever since. His present plant is at Douglass and McKnight streets, which is equipped with machinery for turning out common brick for building and paving purposes. Investment, \$20,000; employees, from 15 to 25; annual product, 1,500,000 brick, which are sold at Reading.

Parker Kilns.—Joseph Parker and Henry Deeter began making building and paving brick in 1866. They were succeeded by Robert Parker in 1869 and he carried on the business until 1882 when William H. Parker became the owner. Employees, 25; product, 1,200,000, supplied to Reading builders.

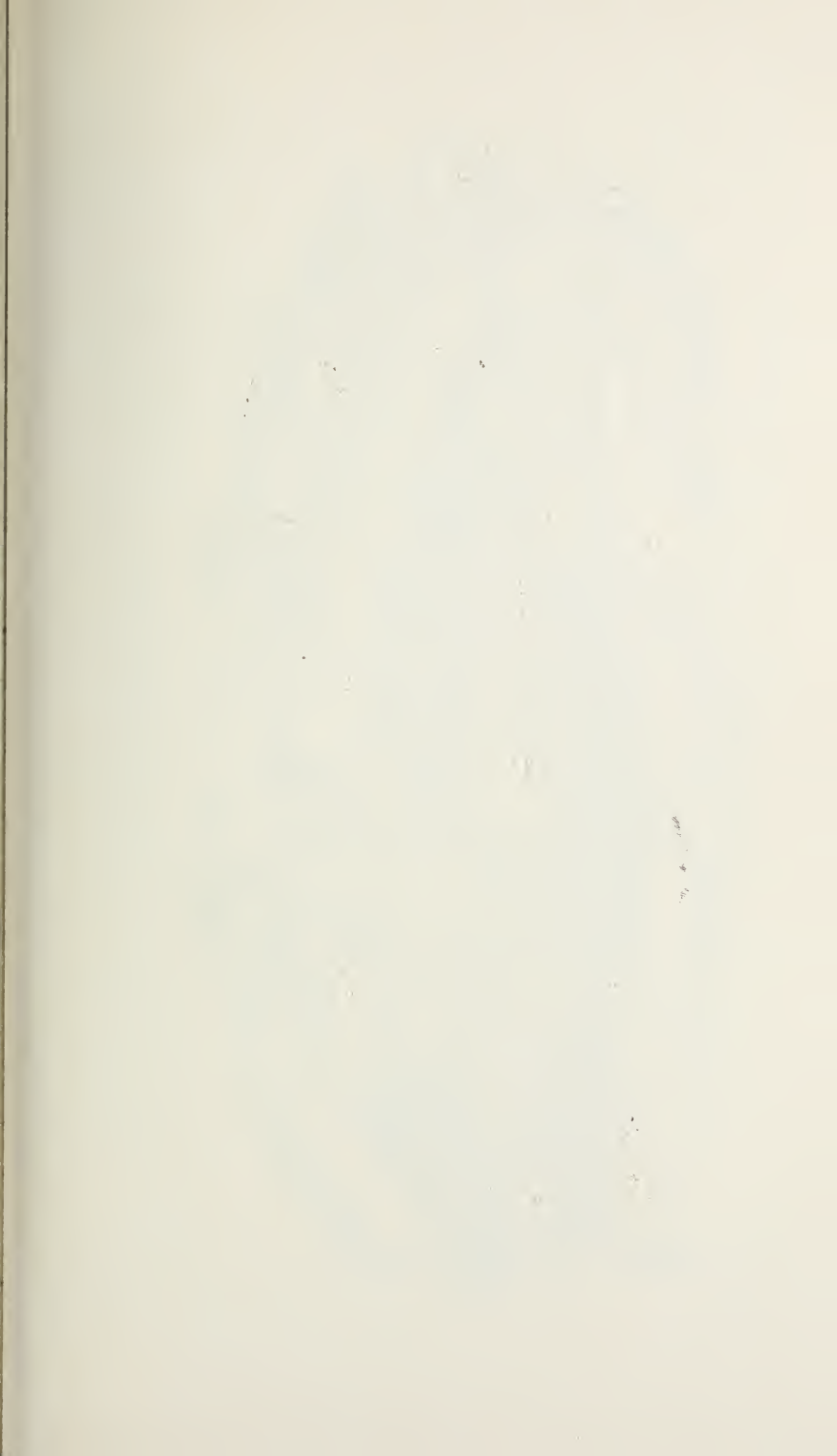
Bausher Kilns.—In 1886 T. D. Bausher, trading as T. D. Bausher & Co., began making hand made common and pressed brick at Ninth and Pike streets, employing 50 hands, and producing two millions, which were sold to local builders. The kilns have been in operation since he began. In 1897 only 22 hands were employed, who produced half a million. The reduction was caused by the competition of machine-made brick.

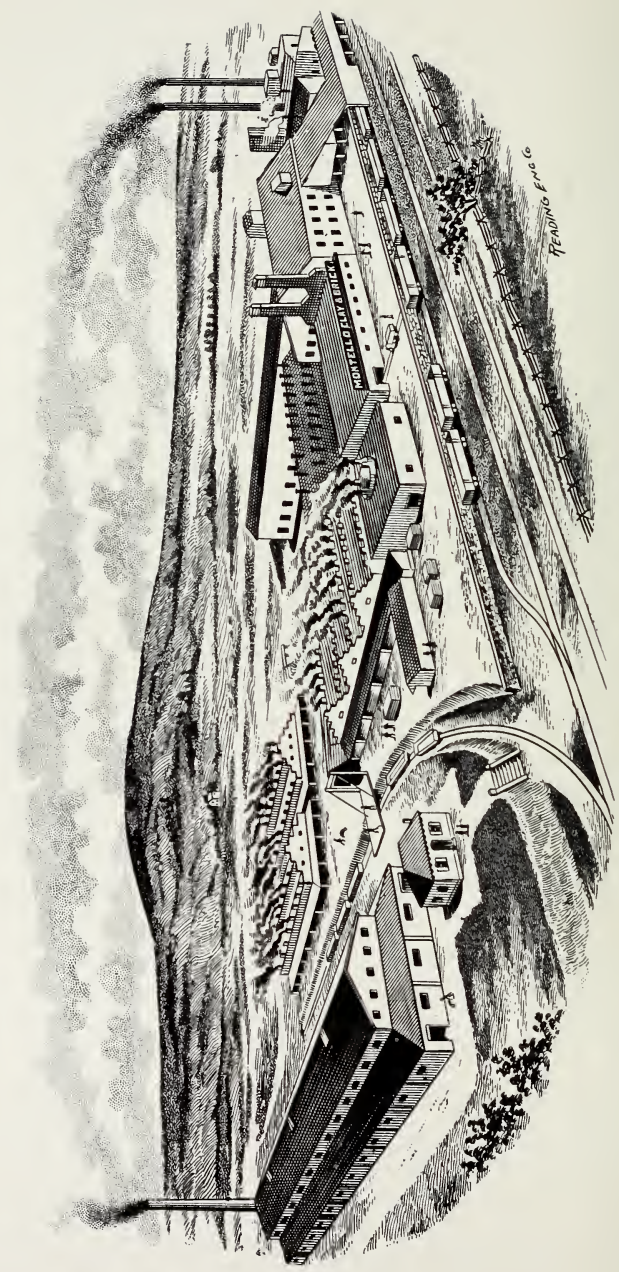
Kaltenbach Kilns.—In 1885 Conrad Kaltenbach established a brick works in West Reading for making building and paving brick, both common and pressed, by machinery, and he has conducted the same until now. He employs about 50 hands and produces annually, 3,000,000 brick, which are disposed of at Reading and vicinity.

Drexel Kilns.—George W. Drexel began manufacturing hand-made building and paving brick in West Reading in 1878. He employs from 20 to 30 hands and produces annually, 1,500,000 brick which are sold in Reading and vicinity.

Graul & Co. Kilns.—William P. Graul and Matthias Moyer, trading as Graul & Co. have manufactured common and pressed building and paving brick in West Reading since 1885. They have 4 kilns, produce annually 6,000,000 brick, and employ 120 hands; product sold at Reading.

Boyer Kilns.—About 1870 Straud & Katzenmoyer began making building and paving brick in Cumru Township, on the Lan-





MONTELLO CLAY AND BRICK WORKS.

caster road near the Schuylkill bridge. Their successors at that place were Simon Kline, William M. Fulton and Mrs. George A. Boyer, the last operating the plant now. Employees, 15; product, 700,000, supplied to local builders.

FIRE BRICK

Reading Fire Brick Works.—In 1845 William A. Wells began the manufacture of fire brick on Canal between Fourth and Fifth streets. He carried on the business for some years, and then sold out to Isaac Bertolette who continued the same until 1857, when Isaac McHose and Augustus S. Thompson became the owners. They traded under the name of McHose & Thompson, and produced about 2,000,000 brick annually. In 1865 Levi Quier was admitted as a partner, and in 1870 Mr. Thompson retired, and Jerome L. Boyer became a partner. Then the plant was enlarged and equipped with improved machinery. The capacity was increased to 3,500,000 brick per annum and they employed from 60 to 70 men. The fire-clay has been obtained from New Jersey and the product shipped to the several furnaces, rolling mills and foundries in the Schuylkill and Lebanon Valleys, with special orders sent to more distant parts of the country. In 1889 the firm was incorporated under the name of Reading Fire Brick Works, McHose & Co., with a capital of \$100,000. Annual product now 5,000,000; employees, 60. Officers: Jerome L. Boyer, pres.; Edwin A. Quier, sec.; Levi Quier, treas. and general manager, having been manager for thirty-three years.

Eckert Works.—In 1863 George J. Eckert and Daniel Miller established a fire brick works on Canal street near the Lancaster bridge. In 1865 Mr. Eckert became the sole proprietor, and he has carried it on since. Employees, 20; wages, \$6,000; product, 6,000 daily, disposed of in Eastern Pennsylvania. (This place was formerly occupied by Darling, Dotterer & Co., the first manufacturers of machinery at Reading.)

VITRIFIED BRICK.

Montello Clay & Brick Co. was organized by Howard L. Boas and A. A. Gery in 1892 for the manufacture of building, fire, sewer and vitrified paving brick, and afterward incorporated with a capital of \$150,000. They established a large plant

in Spring township, a mile south of Sinking Springs, at a place which they named "Montello." In addition to six large down-draft kilns, they also operate a continuous kiln which is the largest of its kind in the country and capable of producing daily 45,000 brick. Employees, 110; annual wages, \$40,000; annual product, 30,000,000, disposed of chiefly at Reading, Philadelphia and Wilmington. These brick were tested with many others at Philadelphia in April, 1897, for public works there and they ranked first of all in Pennsylvania. Officers: M. Harbster, pres.; Howard L. Boas, sec.; A. A. Gery, supt.

Reading Shale Brick Co.—In 1896 Jas. K. Getz, Hiram K. Getz, J. Barbey, Wm. H. Seitzinger and P. E. Yeager organized the Reading Shale Brick Co. for the manufacture of vitrified brick. Their plant is situated along the Lebanon Valley railroad, one mile west of Reading. They have an inexhaustible supply of superior shale, with eight kilns in operation. Daily product, 40,000. Investment, \$75,000; men employed, 30. They produce vitrified, street, paving, sewer and building brick. Nearly the entire product has been shipped to Philadelphia. Officers: James K. Getz, pres.; John Barbey, treas.; Wm. H. Seitzinger, sec.; P. E. Yeager, supt.

BROOMS.

Broom-making at Reading was an early industry, but it was carried on in a very limited manner. For rough sweeping, on pavements and in stables, brooms made out of hickory, birch and sassafras twigs about two feet long were commonly used. Henry H. Krouse was the first to manufacture corn-brooms extensively, having started about 1840. Previously, carpeted floors were considered luxurious, and sweeping was done mostly with long-haired brushes.

Shanaman Factory.—In 1873 Jacob, Walter and William F. Shanaman began making brooms by hand, at 309 North Fifth street, and produced about 25 dozen weekly, which they sold at Reading. In 1877 they removed their factory to premises 236 North Sixth street, and introduced machinery, employing from 25 to 35 hands and producing 250 dozen weekly, which they sold in Eastern Pennsylvania. In 1891 they removed to 225 Church street and introduced additional improved machinery. They reduced their employees to 15, but continued to turn out the

same quantity. At first they brought their broom corn from dealers at Philadelphia, but since 1877, from producers in Illinois, which is the great state for this article.

In 1896 Walter B. Shanaman withdrew from the firm and started for himself. He employs from 5 to 8 hands and produces about 100 dozen weekly.

E. C. Kirschman started in 1877 while a boy 16 years old. He began with 4 men and made 8 dozen a day. After being in the business several years, he increased the production to 40 dozen daily. His trade extended throughout Eastern Pennsylvania. He continued in business until 1896.

Others recently started in this business are Cyrus W. Strouse, J. R. Fisher & Co., C. H. Varney, S. C. Winters, J. Wolfson & Co., Samuel E. Nies, William J. Cooney and Jacob Fritz, all employing several hands and producing from 50 to 100 dozen weekly.

BRUSHES.

Benjamin Witman is believed to have been the first person at Reading who followed the business of brush-making. His place was at 523 Penn street. Morris Helms was the next, he coming here from Philadelphia about 1835, and after carrying it on for several years formed a co-partnership with John German from Womelsdorf. Their factory was where the Grand Opera House now stands. Their trade was large, and extended throughout the surrounding counties.

Steinel Factory.—Peter Steinel emigrated from Germany in 1847, and located at Reading. He began manufacturing brushes of all kinds in 1848 on Franklin street near Front. He removed to 945 Penn street in 1853, and carried on the business there until his decease in 1870. He established a large trade, employing from 25 to 30 hands, and distributed his production in this and the surrounding counties by a number of teams. His son John E. Steinel then succeeded him, removing the factory to 837 Walnut street, and he has carried on the same until the present time. He employs from 6 to 15 hands, and ships brushes to different parts of this and the surrounding counties.

Regenfuse Factory.—George Regenfuse began brush making about 1852, and carried on the business by himself until 1895, when Jacob Brestel became a partner. They em-

ploy several hands, and manufacture all kinds of brushes which are sold at Reading and in different parts of Pennsylvania.

Drenkel Factory.—Amos Drenkel began at 15 North Eighth street in 1863 and he has continued brush making there until now. His product is disposed of in Berks and the surrounding counties. Investment, \$2,000; annual product, \$5000; employ-ees, 3; and annual wages, \$1000.

Flatt Factory.—Jos. O. Flatt began making all kinds of bristle brushes in 1872 at 641 Pine street, subsequently turning his at-tention to the production of hair and tampico patent brushes as a specialty. He died in 1895. His son Joseph then carried on the factory for two years, when it was removed to a 3-story brick building at 548 Miltimore street, and another son, George, became a partner, the two trading as J. O. Flatt & Co. They employ 15 hands and produce annually 1000 gross of brushes which are shipped to all parts of the country.

BUILDERS AND STRUCTURES.

The building operations occupy a prominent position in the history of Reading. They afforded constant employment to hundreds of builders, carpenters, masons and material-men, particularly after 1836; and though not generally classed with the factories and shops of the place, yet they are inseparably connected with its industrial affairs and must be recognized as constituting an important part of them.

Builders.—The prominent builders at Reading before 1850 were Frederick Printz and son John, Nicholas Lott, George Call and son William, William and Joseph Henry, Solomon Spohn, Benjamin Fink, Edward and Charles Schmeck, Miller & Craig, Foos & Bingaman, Bear, Smith & Eisenhower, Benne-ville Hemmig, and Eisenhower & Fink.

The first persons who erected rows of dwelling houses for sale before that time were Joseph W. Fry, Philip Zieber, and Christopher Deem, (Fry having begun in 1831); afterward a con-siderable number engaged in this business, the most active until 1898 having been John R. Bechtel, Jeremiah Benner, Adam B. Brossman, David E. DeHart, George M. Ermentrout, George P. Ganger, W. A. Griesemer, Joseph A. Heine, Peter W. Helfrich, Henry D. High, William R. Hinnershitz, Isaac

Hollenbach, E. W. Landis, J. S. Livingood, David F. Lotz, S. P. O'Reilly, Rehr & Fricker, Roland & Leader, D. C. Roth, Stichter & McKnight, Christian Stoltz, Julius Wagner, White & Wagner.

Building and Savings Associations must be mentioned in this connection, for they caused many hundreds of dwellings to be erected in all sections of Reading, and thereby contributed largely towards the industrial and general welfare of Reading.

Structures.—The largest buildings erected at Reading prior to 1850 were the following: First Reformed Church (stone) 1761; Court House (stone) 1762; Trinity Lutheran Church (brick) 1791; State House (brick) 1793; Penn street bridge (frame) 1815; Bingaman street bridge (frame) 1831; Iron Works of Keims, Whitaker & Co. (frame) 1836; P. & R. R. Co. shops (brick) 1838; Court House (brick) 1838-40; Eckert's furnace (stone) 1842; Salem Evangelical Church (brick) 1844; St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church (brick) 1845; Odd Fellows' Hall (brick, plastered) 1846; County Prison (stone) 1847; Presbyterian Church (stone and brick) 1848; St. Peter's M. E. Church (brick) 1848; Cotton Factory (brick) 1850; Jackson's Rope Walk (brick and frame) 1850.

CANDY.

Augustus Kolb was engaged in making candy of different kinds at Reading before 1816. Subsequently the Millers and Souders were engaged in the business for many years, but they carried on manufacturing in a limited way. Since 1890 it has come to be an industry of considerable importance.

Koller Factory.—When Jeremiah O. Koller established his ice cream parlor at 441 Penn square in 1880, he also engaged in the manufacture of candies, producing a ton weekly and selling the same to dealers at Reading. He continued supplying customers until 1895. Since then he produces half a ton weekly, which he sells in connection with ice cream.

Luden Factory.—In 1882 William H. Luden began making candy for Christmas, with 30 pounds of sugar, at 37 North Fifth street, and disposed of the product in his store. He continued there for 10 years when he removed to Sixth and Washington streets where he established a large factory. He employs

140 persons, and works up a car load of sugar weekly. The annual business amounts to \$300,000. His trade extends through the Eastern, Middle and Southern States. Capital invested, \$100,000.

Hollis Factory.—W. G. Hollis emigrated from Greece in 1887, and settled at Reading. He made for a while chocolate candy in a limited way, and in 1893 erected a factory at 625 Franklin street, which he has conducted until now. His business is devoted entirely to chocolate candy in all forms. He employs 75 hands. Investment, \$20,000; annual business, \$75,000. He has become a naturalized citizen.

Fries Factory.—John M. Fries began making all kinds of candy and ice cream in 1888 at 1013 Chestnut street, shipping the former to all parts of the Eastern and Middle States, and supplying the latter to customers at Reading. Employees, 10; investment, \$8,000; wages, \$3,000; product, \$10,000.

Reading Confectionery Co. was organized by Reuben G. Shalter and Howard C. Baum in 1892, who began making candies of all kinds at Eighth and Spring streets with 5 hands. In 1896, they removed to 1138 Moss street, and increased their business. They now employ 135 hands, and ship annually a thousand tons of candy to all parts of the United States.

Sauppee & Klee Factory.—In 1896 Valentine C. Sauppee and Benton Klee started candy-making at Seventh and Court streets. In February, 1898, they located at 1132 Moss street. Employees, 48; product, 400 tons of candy yearly.

Hostetter Factory.—Taylor T. Hostetter began making candy and ice cream in 1897 at 739 Penn street. He produces daily about 600 pounds of candy and 300 quarts of ice cream, which are sold at Reading.

CARPETS.

Weaving of carpets, coverlets and blankets was one of the first employments at Reading. It was carried on extensively from 1825 to 1850 by a number of weavers, who also manufactured ingrain carpets and linen material for ticking, bags, etc. Then the business began to decline. Now, weavers confine their attention almost entirely to rag and jute carpets. Rag and ingrain carpets were made for many years at the Berks

County Prison in large quantities, about 50,000 yards a year. Since 1894 the product at that institution has been exclusively rag carpet, averaging over 30,000 yards a year.

The most prominent weavers since 1847, and the longest engaged in the business were George Goodman, George Price, Philip Rush and Michael Schweitzer.

Pflugfelder Factory.—John Pflugfelder emigrated from Germany to Reading in 1855, and carried on rag carpet weaving until his decease in 1897. Altogether he followed the business for 65 years.

Charles P. Pflugfelder, his son, began in 1882, and he has carried on a factory since then, employing from 2 to 4 hands. He produces about 5000 yards annually, which are sold mostly to persons at Reading. He fills orders occasionally for persons residing in the Western States. Factory, 1152 Perkiomen avenue.

Boyer Factory.—Thomas A. Boyer began in 1883 and he has carried on the business since. He employs 3 hands, produces over 10,000 yards of carpet annually. The annual wages exceed \$1200. His factory is at 523 Bingaman street, and his production is disposed of in Reading and surrounding places. He also manufactures chenille rugs.

Goelt Factory.—John E. Goelt and John F. Beck, trading as Reading Carpet Manufacturing Co. began in 1885. They employ 3 hands and produce annually 15,500 yards which are sold in Pennsylvania. Factory is at 836 North Eighth street.

Smith Factory.—In 1887 Charles J. Smith started a weaving shop for making rag and jute carpet and also chenille. Employees from 1 to 4, according to demands; annual product, 5,600 yards, which is sold at Reading. Factory, 329 North Eighth street.

Others engaged in this business are T. Boaman, William Ernshaw and John Hampele.

CARRIAGES, WAGONS AND WHEELS.

Wetherhold Factory.—In 1862 William H. Wetherhold removed from Allentown to Reading and began the manufacture of carriages and wagons on Court street above Seventh. Several years afterward he located on Poplar street near Court, and there carried on the business extensively until 1891, employing

from 25 to 40 hands. Then he retired and was succeeded by his three sons, William W., Robert F., and George W., who have continued the business, under the name of Wetherhold Bros. In 1897 Robert F. Wetherhold withdrew from the firm. Their carriages and wagons of different kinds are shipped to all parts of the United States. Investment, \$12,000; annual wages, \$15,000, and product, \$40,000.

Biehl Factory.—In 1877 George W. Biehl began to manufacture light carriages and wagons on Cherry street below Sixth, employing 5 hands. In 1882, he established a factory at 31 South Fifth street, where he has continued until now, excepting from 1891 to 1893, when the business was conducted by James Goodman. He employs 45 hands; annual product, \$50,000, and wages, \$23,000. His trade extends through Pennsylvania and parts of New York. He now manufactures both light and heavy carriages and wagons.

Kreider Factory.—In 1855 Edward W. Kreider removed from Catasauqua to Reading and carried on the manufacture of carriages, wagons and sleighs. In 1872 he located on Pearl above Franklin street, where he has continued until now. He employs from 5 to 10 hands and has invested about \$9000.

Keystone Wagon Co.—In 1876 James A. Klees, as a wheelwright, began the manufacture of wagons at Shenandoah, Schuylkill county, and in several years succeeded in building up a large trade, affording employment to 15 men. In ten years his business had developed to such an extent that he was obliged to select a more central location with large shipping facilities. He located at Reading, Third street and Lebanon Valley railroad, and erected a superior establishment. In 1890 a company was organized with a capital of \$250,000. Wagons of all kinds are manufactured and orders are filled from every state in the United States, and from Canada, South America, England, Germany and South Africa. Employees, 100; annual wages, \$50,000; and product, \$100,000.

Penn Wagon Co. was organized by Walter G. Stewart in 1893, for the manufacture of wagons of all kinds, and a company was incorporated. The factory is on Bern street between Tenth and Moss. Annual production 50 wagons, worth \$15,000; hands employed, 14; wages, \$7,000.

Himmelberger & Smith Factory.—F. R. Himmelberger and George H. Smith started the manufacture of carriages and wagons in West Reading in 1888, with several men. They increased their business gradually. Now they employ from 15 to 20 men. Investment, \$10,000; annual product, \$17,000.

Bard Factory.—In 1855 Isaac Roland began the manufacture of wagon and carriage wheels at Buttonwood and Cedar streets. He was interested in the business until 1872, when Harry S. Bard became the owner, who has operated the factory until now, trading as the Reading Wheel & Gear Co. Since 1894, he has manufactured carriages. Investment, \$18,000; employees, 16.

Wheelwrights.—From the foundation of Reading until about 1860, wheelwright shops were carried on successfully for manufacturing heavy wagons and carts, to supply local demands; then they began to decline on account of competition from distant places, and they continued to do so until now they are few in number, and those that remain are engaged almost entirely in repairing.

CEMENT PAVING

The first cement pavement at Reading was laid in 1883 at the Boys' High School. Engelbert Wagonblast, during the same year, laid the basement of City Hall in cement, and from that time has followed this business. He started with several men and used only a small quantity of cement; now he employs from 15 to 25 men, and consumes monthly from 100 to 125 barrels of cement. For concrete, he uses Lehigh county cement, but for the surface of the pavement, imported German cement.

Others engaged in this business are Lewis H. Stuebner and Robert L. Wilson.

CIGARS.

The manufacture of cigars began in Reading about 1800. From that time to 1847, the prominent manufacturers of the town were James Morris, John Eyrich, Samuel Eyrich, Isaac James, J. & E. Eyrich, Philip Albright, Gosham Wolf, John Maltzberger, J. & G. W. Hantsch, C. Breneiser and William Hartman. The tobacco was at first obtained from Kentucky. About 1835 it was shipped from Lancaster and York counties.

Cigar-makers generally made from 800 to 1500 cigars a day. Several made 2000. The prices paid were five, six and seven cents

a hundred; and they sold for \$1.50 to \$2.00 per thousand. The total manufacture in 1840 was about 20,000 daily. The country cigar-makers bought the leaf tobacco from John Eyrich, and then sold the cigars to him. He had at times half a million on hand. Most of them were sold at from three to seven for a cent; and they were consumed in Reading and vicinity.

There was more smoking then, in proportion to the population, than at the present day. A box of cigars always stood on the counter of every tavern and its contents were free to all guests. The workers in tobacco were men and boys, the latter being strippers. The business of cigar-making increased gradually after 1847, a better quality of cigars was made, and more skilled hands came to be employed.

The prominent manufacturers of cigars from 1847 to 1875 were J. M. & G. W. Hantsch, John Maltzberger and Charles Breneiser, but their product was comparatively small. In 1869 George W. Crouse came from New York to Reading and began the business extensively in the northern part of the city beyond Bern street. He employed 100 young girls, and was the first at Reading to employ females in this branch of industry.

Daniel W. Crouse came from Bedford, Pa. to Reading in 1875, and after having traded with George W. Hantsch, as Hantsch & Crouse, until 1880, he formed a partnership with his uncle, George W. Crouse. They traded as Crouse & Co. and established a large factory on Sixth street below Penn, where they employed over 400 hands and manufactured 10,000,000 common cigars, which they sold in all parts of the country. The partnership was dissolved in 1885, and Daniel W. Crouse removed to New York, to engage in the leaf tobacco business. He returned in 1895 and has since conducted a factory at 45 Reed street.

There were twenty-five manufacturers of chewing and smoking tobacco who produced altogether during 1897 about 125,000 pounds and employed about 100 persons.

Cigar Manufacturers in 1898.—In March, 1898, there were 110 cigar manufacturers at Reading. Of these, 29, (marked *) each produced during 1897 over 100,000 cigars, and 15 (marked **) each over 500,000. The total product was 50,000,000, which yielded a revenue to the United States government ex-

ceeding \$150,000. And the total number of persons employed in all the factories was about 3200.

LIST OF CIGAR MANUFACTURERS.

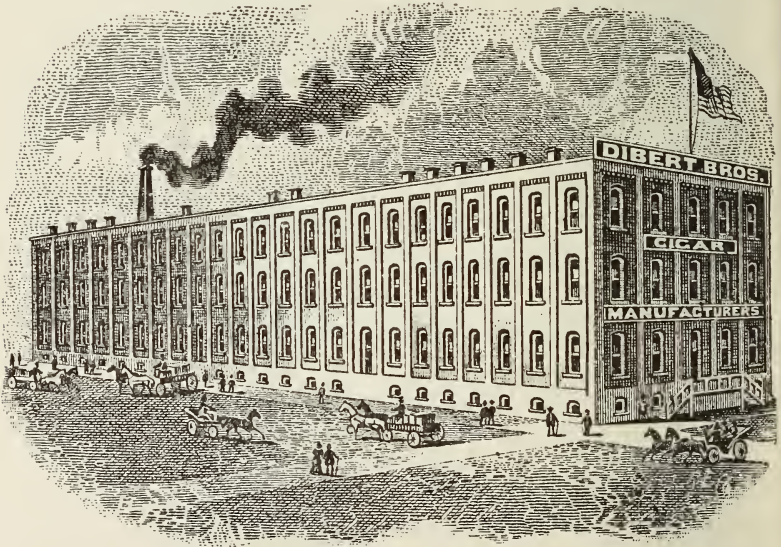
- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| J. Milton Althouse.* | Kline & Winter.** |
| Elias K. Althouse. | Emanuel E. Keller. |
| Charles Amrhein.* | Jefferson Kuser. |
| Benjamin Artz. | W. E. Crum & Co. |
| James Beard * | D. H. Kerling |
| Milton Bortz. | John B. Kalbach. |
| Blome & Co * | Frank D. Killian |
| W. W. Boone. | Paul J. Kirschman. |
| Blachman Cigar Co.* | Elias E. Kahler.** |
| Bon Ton Cigar Co.* | Edgar A. Lehr. |
| Born Brothers * | George W. Lehr.** |
| C. Breneiser & Sons * | Selas W. Manbeck. |
| H. D. Brossman & Son.** | Charles Maerz ** |
| Andrew P. Bower | George R. Maltzberger. |
| Harry G. Burkey.* | John R. Mast & Co.* |
| Jeremiah L. Brumbach. | F. M. Moyer |
| Crouse & Co.** | Daniel W. Moyer. |
| Daniel W. Crouse * | John B. Mersinger. |
| Jacob W. Conrad. | Lafayette Neider. |
| John Chelius. | Newcomet & Dalzell.* |
| John W. Clark. | Price & Spatz ** |
| Dibert Bros.—S. D. Dibert.** | H. H. Roland ** |
| Samuel H. Donahower. | George Raab, Jr. |
| William Eidam. | Rothenberger & Hill. |
| Eshelman, Endy & Co.** | Jeremiah Reider |
| Charles Fleck & Son.* | John H. Riegel ** |
| Samuel P. Fehr. | William W. Riegel.* |
| J. H. Fisher. | Reuben B. Rhoads. |
| John U. Fehr.* | George B. Reiber. |
| Fraternity Cigar Co. | Reading Cigar Co. |
| Frame Cigar Co.* | P. Rufe & Co.* |
| Henry J. Fink. | Edwin G. Readinger. |
| Geo. W. Filbert. | Charles Rufe. |
| Henry T. Fick. | Howard H. Sheeler. |
| Harry W. Grim. | William H. Sands. |
| Jacob Gnau. | Levi R. Sheaffer. |
| Morris Goldman. | Wallace Spangler. |
| Sallie Goodhart. | Charles P. Smith. |
| Samuel Grau. | James P. Stanton. |
| Gumpert Brothers.** | Henry Stuber. |
| Frank Ganter * | Edward F. Stoeber. |
| A. S. Hartman.* | Lewis L. Spohn. |
| Julius G. Hansen.** | John F. Smith. |
| G. Hilderbrand.* | James E. Spohn. |
| H. A. Hageman. | Scheffler & Yerger.* |
| F. J. Hunt.** | Peter Texter. |
| J. M. Hutchison * | E. E. Taylor & Co * |
| Harvey J. Hedrick. | John H. Weinhold.* |
| Samuel L. Haller. | Jacob Weigley. |
| Sam Hantsch.* | H. H. Wentzel. |
| Samuel Heckman. | George W. Weidner. |
| George Heilman. | Rebecca C. Weiss. |
| Industrial Cigar Man'g Co.** | Valentine Wilk.* |
| H. B. Jackson. | J. W. Wanner. |
| M. A. Krug. | Yocum Brothers.** |

LARGEST CIGAR FACTORIES.

Brossman Factory.—In 1887 Harrison D. Brossman came to Reading from Douglassville and engaged in the leaf tobacco business. In 1888 he began manufacturing cigars at 224 North Eighth street, employing 12 hands and making 800,000 a year. In 1891 he located at 210 Cedar street, and traded under the name of H. D. Brossman & Son, his son John associating with him. They now employ 19 hands, and produce annually over 1,000,000 cigars, which are sold in the Middle States. Investment, \$8,000.

Crouse Factory.—Millard F. Crouse and Samuel I. Ziemer began trading as Crouse & Co. in 1895, at 128 North Tenth street. On January 1, 1898, J. Calvin Corle became a member of the firm. Employees, 75; product, 300,000 cigars monthly, which are shipped mostly throughout the Middle States.

Dibert Factory.—In 1875 Samuel D. Dibert removed from Bedford, Pa., to Reading. He and his brother Henry S., trading as Dibert Bros., carried on a tobacco jobbing business from



DIBERT CIGAR FACTORY.

1883 to 1887, and then they began manufacturing cigars. In 1893 they located their factory at Washington and Thorn streets,

which they conducted in a very successful manner until January 6, 1898, employing over 100 hands and making annually over 3,000,000 cigars, which were shipped to all parts of the country from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific. Then Samuel D. Dibert became the sole proprietor of the plant and business, and he has since operated the same.

Eshelman & Endy Factory.—John J. Eshelman was engaged in manufacturing cigars at Mohnsville from 1885 to 1897, then he came to Reading and formed a partnership with Charles H. Endy, (his foreman,) trading as Eshelman, Endy & Co., and locating the factory at 137 Cedar street. Investment, \$11,000; employees, 65; monthly wages, \$800; and monthly product, 180,000 cigars, which are forwarded mostly to customers in the Western States.

Gumpert Bros.—In 1892 Albert and Richard T. Gumpert, trading as Gumpert Bros., prominent manufacturers of cigars at Philadelphia, established a branch factory at Reading in 1891, locating at Fifth and Penn streets. They employed 175 hands and produced over 7,000,000 cigars annually. Their business increasing beyond the capacity of the building, they erected a large five-story factory at Seventh and Washington streets in 1893, which they have occupied since, employing about the same number of hands, but doubling their annual product, which is shipped to all parts of the United States. Albert Gumpert died in 1893, but the firm name is still continued.

Hansen Factory.—In 1891, Julius G. Hansen came from New York to Reading and associated with George W. & Millard F. Crouse, trading as Geo. W. Crouse & Co., for making cigars, when they erected a brick factory at Tenth and Spring streets. On January 1, 1895, Mr. Hansen became the sole proprietor. During 1897, he employed from 125 to 150 hands and produced over 5,000,000 cigars, which were shipped to all parts of the United States.

Hunt Factory.—Frank J. Hupt started manufacturing cigars in West Reading in 1892, and in 1893, located in Reading at 636 Court street. He employs 35 hands and produces annually over 1,000,000 cigars, which are shipped to all parts of the United States. Investment, \$18,000; annual wages, \$12,000.

Industrial Cigar Manf'g Co.—In 1878 Nicholas Glaser and George C. Frame associated together for making cigars. In 1884 they erected a large brick factory on Spruce street above Ninth and carried on the business very extensively as Glaser, Frame & Co., forwarding their product to all parts of the United States. In 1890 Mr. Glaser died, and William J. Frame and Morris H. Millmore became the proprietors of the establishment, trading under the same name. In 1897, they employed over 200 hands and made over 6,000,000 cigars. In March, 1898, the Industrial Cigar Manufacturing Co. was organized with Henry S. Dibert as treasurer, who then became the owner of the business. Employees, 140; monthly production, 350,000.

Kahler Factory.—Elias E. Kahler began making cigars with one cigar-maker at 310 North Fourth street in 1895. He removed to 328 Buttonwood street in 1896. Employees, 72; production in 1897, 3,000,000 cigars, high-grade, which are disposed of in the Eastern and Middle States.

Kline & Winters Factory.—James T. Kline and John M. Winters began making cigars January 1, 1897. They employ 25 hands. Investment, \$10,000; wages, \$10,000; product, 2,000,000 cigars, which are sold to customers in the Middle States. Factory 443 Cedar street.

Lehr Factory.—George W. Lehr came from Lebanon county to Reading and in 1876 began manufacturing cigars. In 1889, he established a large factory at 912 Penn street and has conducted the business there until now. Investment, \$30,000; employees, 50; annual wages, \$12,000; and product over 1,000,000 cigars, which are shipped to different parts of the country.

Maerz Factory.—Charles Maerz carried on manufacturing cigars at New York from 1869 to 1881, employing 80 persons and producing about 2,000,000 cigars annually. Then he came to Reading, and, after superintending several factories until 1892, embarked again in the business for himself. He erected a factory at Tenth and Cherry streets in 1894. Investment, 20,000; employees, 28; annual wages, \$12,000; total production, 1,500,000 cigars, which are shipped to customers in Pennsylvania, New York and some of the Western States.

Price & Spatz Factory.—In 1890 John F. Price and John G. Spatz, of Womelsdorf, associated together for the manufacture of cigars. They employed 6 hands and made 500,000 a year. In 1892 they removed their factory to Reading, when they increased their employees to 25 and production to 1,500,000. In 1897 they located in a larger building at Sixth and Cherry streets, and in that year the employees numbered from 125 to 150, and their production exceeded 5,000,000 cigars. Investment, \$20,000; annual wages, \$30,000. Their cigars are shipped principally to the Western States.

Riegel Factory.—John H. Riegel began making cigars at Bernville in 1871. He removed to Reading in 1882, and carried on the business successfully until 1893, when he erected a three-story brick factory at Front and Washington streets. Investment, \$30,000; employees, 50; wages, \$10,000; product in 1897, \$30,000, which was sold principally in the Middle States, and some south and west.

Yocum Bros. Factory.—William H. Yocum began making cigars at Stouchsburg in 1881, and remained there until 1885, increasing his business from employing one person to 60. In 1884 he purchased the business of Glaser & Lehr at Reading and conducted it for nearly a year, employing 100 hands. January 1, 1885, his brother, James W., became a partner, and thence they traded as Yocum Bros. Their rapidly increasing business obliged them to move their factory three times, establishing it finally at Seventh and Walnut streets in 1893, when they erected a large four-story brick building. They employ 350 persons. Their production in 1897 was 15,000,000 cigars, all high-grade, which were sold through wholesale houses in all parts of the United States.

CLOTHING.

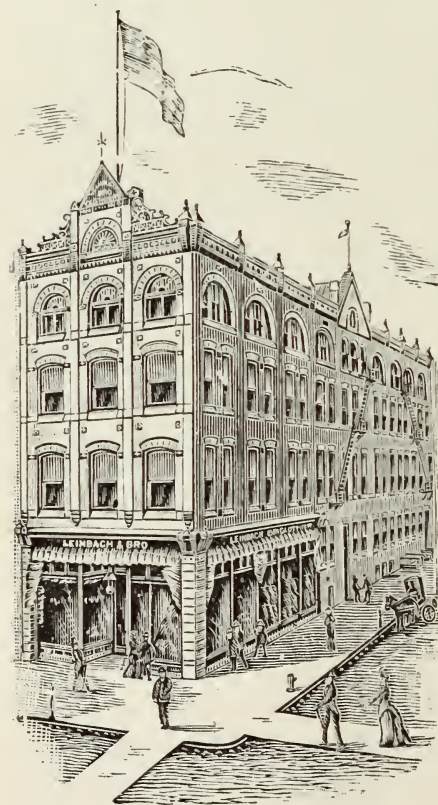
Clothing was almost entirely custom-made at Reading until 1844. Cloth was purchased either at a dry goods store for a suit of clothing or at a merchant tailor's, and cut according to measurement. Then James Jameson started the business of manufacturing men's and boys' clothing of all kinds and sizes and kept the same in stock for buyers. Afterward clothing stores were established, but the different articles were made elsewhere and shipped here to dealers.

Women's and girls' clothing began to be made in quantities by Kline & Eppihimer in 1863, under the superintendence of Mrs. Amos T. Phillippi, and they continued the business, in connection with their dry-goods establishment, until 1893.

Sellers, Medlar & Bachman.—In 1844 James Jameson came from Allentown to Reading and carried on the clothing business at Sixth and Penn streets until his decease in 1890. Then James P. Sellers, William A. Medlar and Charles S. Bachman, who had been in his employ for many years, formed a co-partnership, trading as Sellers, Medlar & Bachman, and purchased the store-building and business. They have con-

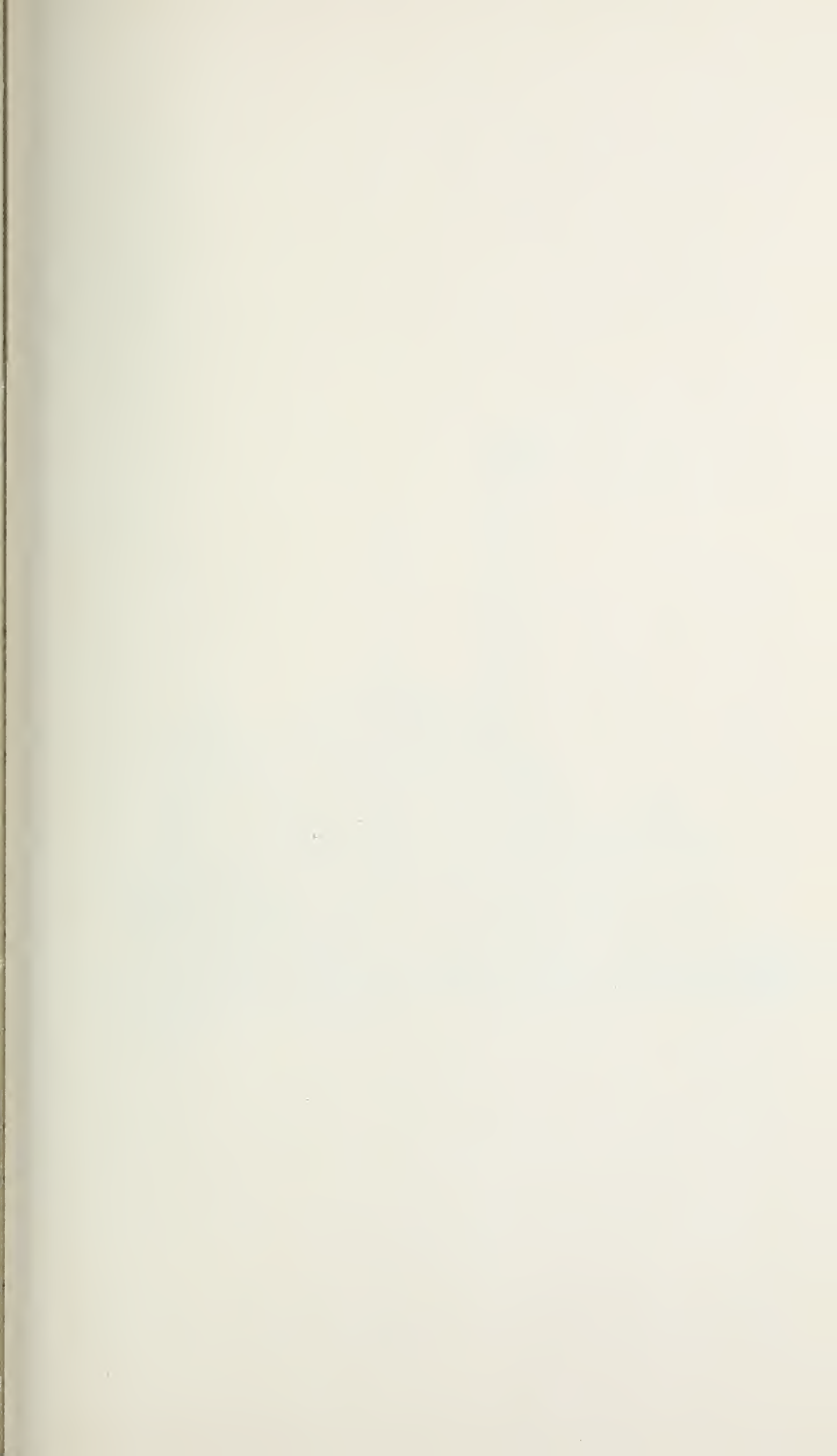
ducted the same successfully until now. Employees, 55 to 60; investment, \$65,000. They manufacture large quantities of men's, boys' and children's clothing which they dispose of in Berks and surrounding counties.

Leinbach & Bro.—Joseph and George Leinbach, brothers, came to Reading from Bern township in 1865, and started the manufacture of clothing and soon developed a large business. In 1888 their nephew, Charles H. Leinbach, became a partner. In 1890, they located at Eighth and Penn streets, erecting there a fine, large establishment. They make large quantities of men's, boys' and children's clothing, which



LEINBACH BUILDING.

they sell in Berks and the surrounding counties. Employees, 265, including 7 cutters and 7 trimmers.





PLANT OF READING COLD STORAGE COMPANY.

Myers & Heim.—Samuel M. Myers and Arthur W. Heim, his son-in-law, were associated together in manufacturing clothing at Lancaster from 1872 to 1880, when they established a large clothing house at Reading, 508 Penn square, and Mr. Heim removed to Reading. They have carried on the business of manufacturing men's, boy's and children's clothing since then, in an extensive manner, selling the same in all parts of Pennsylvania. Employees, 77; investment, \$70,000.

John B. Mull learned his trade of cutter in the employ of James Jameson, clothier, and after remaining with him 12 years, he embarked in business for himself. This was in 1889. He manufactures a full line of boys' and children's clothing, besides carrying on a large trade of custom tailoring at 442 Penn square. He employs 32 hands. Investment, \$30,000.

Brumbach Mills.—In 1865 Albert J. Brumbach established a mill in Exeter township at St. Lawrence for the manufacture of woolen goods, and he has conducted it very successfully, shipping his product to all parts of the United States. He employed 25 hands and his annual business amounted to \$18,000. The mills have been carried on there until now, but the entire product, with 65 hands employed, is converted into pants and vests in his factory at Reading.

In 1895 Mr. Brumbach started a factory for manufacturing pants and vests out of his own goods produced at the St. Lawrence mills. This was at Eighth and Oley streets. He began with 75 hands and the annual business amounted to \$200,000. In 1896 he established a fine brick factory at Fourteenth and Muhlenberg streets where he employs 125 hands, and the total business amounts to \$275,000.

Hirshland Pants Factory.—In 1885 Solomon Hirshland and Isaac Samuel started a pants factory in the Dreifoos building 705 Penn street and carried it on until 1891, trading as the Reading Pants Manufacturing Co. Mr. Hirshland then became the owner, and he has continued the business since. He employs 60 hands and manufactures 15,500 pairs of pants a year, which are sold in all parts of Pennsylvania. His place is at 533 Penn square.

COLD STORAGE.

Reading Plant.—The first cold storage plant was established at Reed and Elm streets in 1891 by A. J. Brumbach,

Dr. W. H. Eck, C. Q. Guldin, J. G. Leinbach, John H. Printz, Geo. O. Runyeon, John A. Strohecker and others, who were incorporated under the name of the Reading Cold Storage Co., with a capital of \$150,000. They caused the erection of a 5-story brick building with a storage capacity of 100 cars, and equipped it with the necessary machinery. They employ 25 hands, produce daily 60 tons of ice, which they supply to the local market; and they make a specialty of storing butter and eggs. Officers: C. Q. Guldin, pres.; Irvin S. Brant, sec.; George O. Runyeon, treas.

Klondike Plant.—In 1890 Saul & Geib started a cold storage plant at Eleventh and Bern streets, which was carried on under the name of the Reading Artificial Ice Co. until 1898. In January of that year, John F. Christman and George F. Mertz organized the Klondike Cold Storage Co., to operate the plant. The storage capacity is 30 cars, and storing eggs is made a specialty. They produce 60 tons of ice daily, which is supplied to customers at Reading.

COTTON GOODS.

Reading Cotton Mill.—In 1849 certain capitalists at Reading organized a company for the manufacture of muslin, and erected a large three-story brick structure 68 by 274 feet on a block of ground at Ninth and Cotton streets. In 1851 the factory was put in operation, having an engine of 200 horse power, 11,264 spindles, 300 looms, and a daily capacity of 9,300 yards of muslin. The total cost was \$220,000. In 1852 (the first year,) the production was 1,578,859 yards; over 300 hands were employed and the wages paid exceeded \$40,000. It was operated until 1860, when it was sold to Garner & Co. of New York City, for \$152,460.

In 1886 the plant was enlarged to the length of 360 feet and the most improved machinery introduced, thereby increasing the capacity and reducing the number of employees. Though the number of employees was reduced, the average wages were increased. Now the company has in use 412 looms and 17,216 spindles; employs 290 hands and produces annually over 5,000,000 yards of unbleached muslin ready for printing shirtings, dress goods, etc. The annual wages amount to \$80,000, and the production to \$190,000.

This industry has been a most important one to Reading. The Garner family have operated it very successfully and continuously for nearly 40 years, and paid in wages altogether over \$3,000,000. In connection with this plant they also operate large cotton mills at Cohoes, Rochester, Newburgh and Pleasant Valley, New York, and large print works at Wappingers' Falls and Haverstraw, New York, the looms together numbering over 8,000, with an estimated annual production of more than one hundred million yards.

Caldwell Cotton Batting Mill.—William J. Caldwell began the manufacture of cotton batting in 1887 at 141 Pearl street, with 3 hands and an annual production of 50 tons, which was forwarded mostly to the West. He has continued the business until now, and employs 5 hands. Annual business, \$8,000.

Ammon Underwear Factory.—In 1893 Elijah S. Ammon began making underwear in his factory building at 17 South Front street, and employed 10 hands. He has continued the business until the present time, employing 15 hands, and producing daily 75 dozen, which are shipped to different parts of the United States, east of the Mississippi river. His factory is equipped with fine machinery. It is the first and only one of the kind at Reading.

Thalheimer Handkerchief Factory.—In 1897 Emanuel Thalheimer and Mahlon Seidel began manufacturing victoria-lawm hem-stitched handkerchiefs for ladies and gentlemen at 141 Cedar street. They employ 48 hands and produce weekly 2500 dozen. The product is sold at New York. Investment, \$5,000.

Star Novelty Co.—In 1889 Harry F. Stern trading as the Star Novelty Co., located in the Boas Building, 752 Penn street, and he has since employed 150 hands in making large quantities of ladies' and children's aprons, dresses and waists, which have been sold to the retail trade all over the United States.

Berks Overall Co.—In 1896 Charles C. Graeff, S. L. Graeff and H. M. Graeff began trading as Berks Overall Manufacturing Co., Limited, for making overalls and jackets. Factory, Front and Washington streets. Employees, 30; wages, \$5,000; product, 10,000 dozen, which is shipped to all parts of the United States.

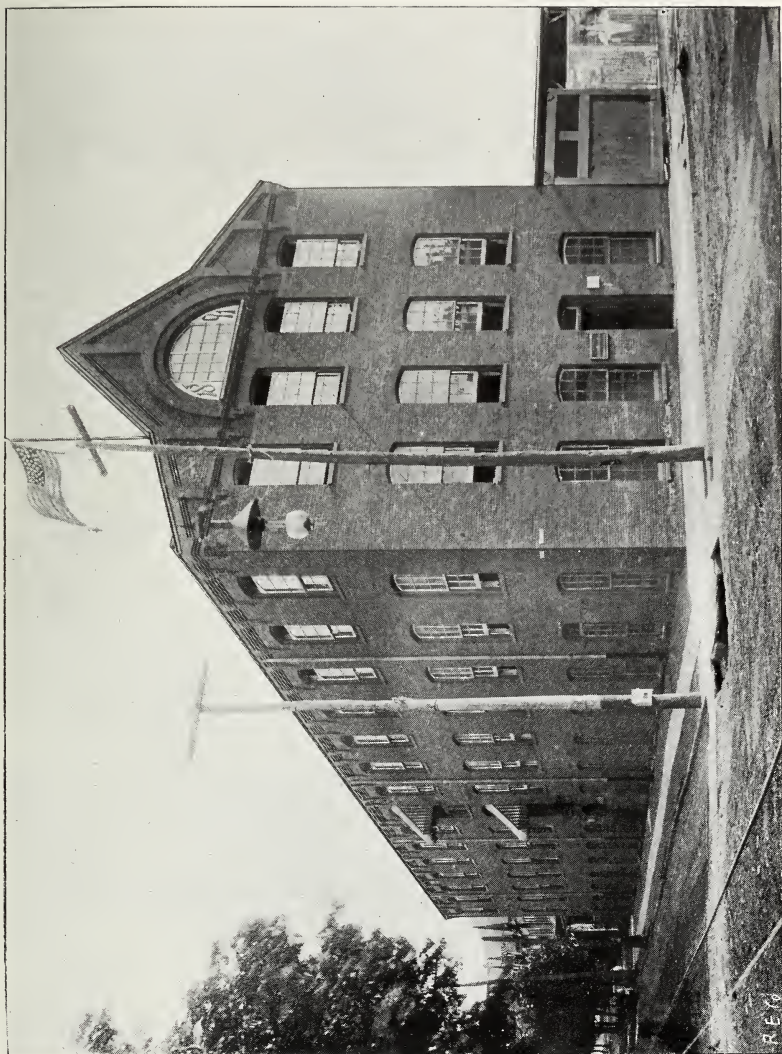
HOSIERY.

The knitting of stockings as a promising local industry did not begin at Reading until 1883. Previously the stockings were generally supplied by dealers in dry goods and notions, who purchased them from importers or from manufacturers at Germantown. Many pairs, both cotton and woolen, were knitted by hand by women for their own families. In the year named the first machinery was introduced for this purpose, and in 1891 knitting machinery began to be made here.

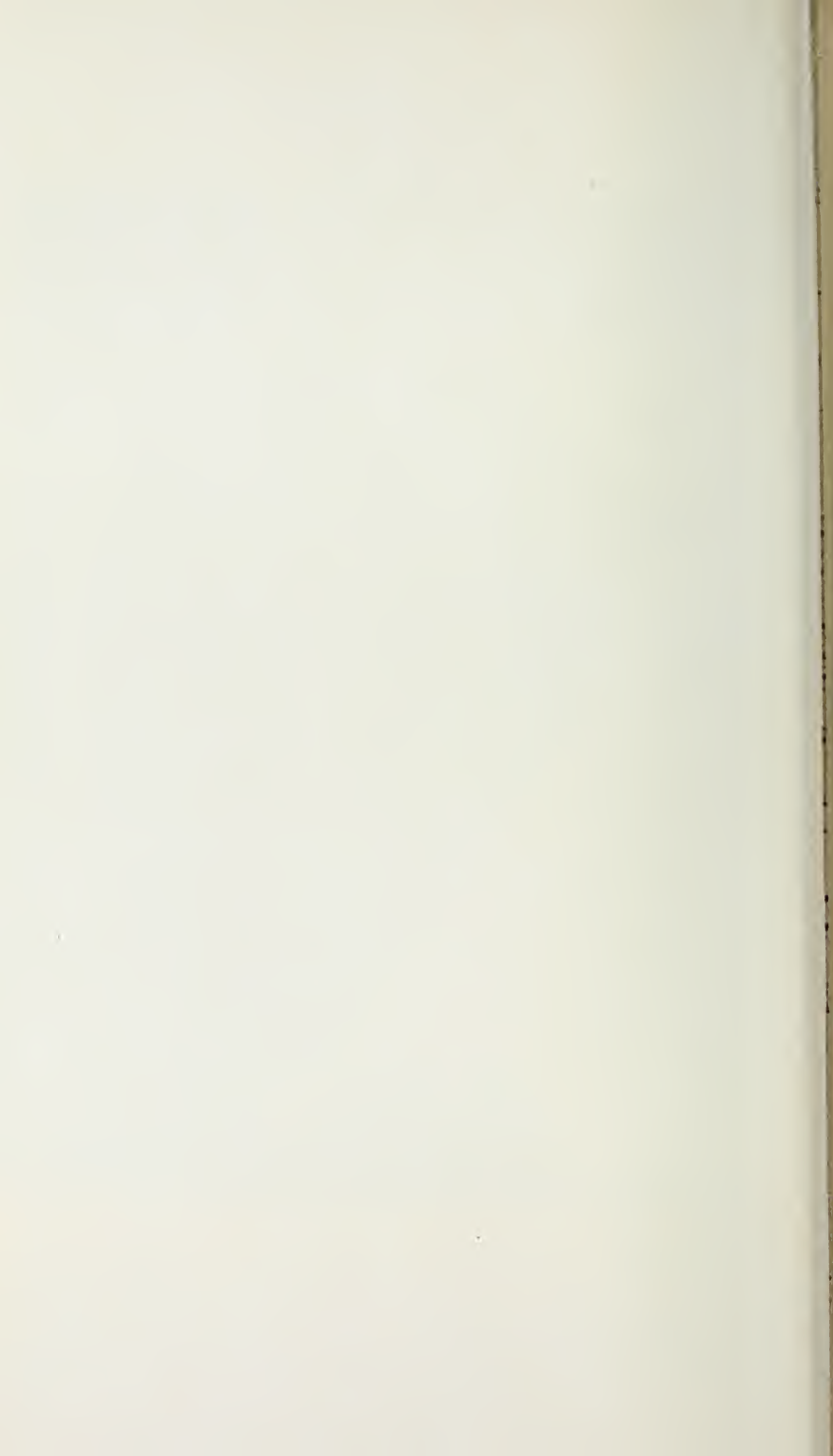
The following eighteen hosiery factories are carried on at Reading. The total investment in the business exceeds \$600,000; the employees number 1800, whose annual wages exceed \$500,000. The total production is about 2,000,000 dozen, and the value is estimated at \$1,500,000.

Reading Knitting Mills.—In 1883 Harry L. Johnson began the manufacture of hosiery by machinery at Eighth and Green streets with 12 machines and 18 hands. In 1884, he removed the factory to Washington and Ash streets, increasing the number of machines to 100 and hands to 113. In 1885 he sold the plant to Wilson C. Shantz and I. C. Hunsicker. Shortly afterward, Shantz withdrew and Samuel H. Kutz was substituted in his place, the firm trading under the name of I. C. Hunsicker & Co. They produced about 500 dozen daily. In 1891 they erected a three-story brick factory at Fourth and Elm streets to answer the increasing demands of their trade, and there they conducted the business for five years, employing on an average 250 hands, and producing over 800 dozen daily. In 1896 John Gaenzle and Luther E. Gable purchased the establishment and carried on the business under the name of J. Gaenzle & Co., until March 1, 1898, when Mr. Gable retired and Charles E. Leippe took his place, the name then becoming Gaenzle & Leippe. They manufacture 84-needle hosiery, and produce 1500 dozen daily which they ship to all parts of the United States. Investment, \$80,000; employees, 350; annual wages, \$65,000. This is the largest exclusively 84-needle hosiery mill in the United States, and admitted to be one of the best equipped plants in this branch of industry.

Keystone Knitting Mill.—Levi B. Paxson, Jr., and Walter S. Weber associated together in 1886 to carry on the making of



READING KNITTING MILLS—GAENZLE & LEIPPE.



seamless gents' half-hosiery under the name of Keystone Knitting Mill, at 217 Church street. They conducted the business until January 1, 1898, when Mr. Paxson became the sole owner. Investment, \$3,000; employees, 6; wages, \$1,500; product, 10,000 dozen, which is disposed of in the Western States.

Nolde & Horst Factory.—Jacob Nolde and George D. Horst began to manufacture hosiery on the third floor of the Thalheimer Power Building in 1888 with 25 hands. Their annual product amounted to \$20,000. In 1890 they built a brick factory on Cedar street beyond Walnut, and there continued the business, in connection with a plant which they carried on at Eighth and Spring streets, until 1892, when they took possession of a four-story brick building on Moss beyond Douglass which they erected. In 1896 they enlarged the building adding two departments, one for dyeing and the other for manufacturing paper boxes. The plant now constitutes the largest hosiery enterprise at Reading. The company was incorporated in 1897. Capital, \$250,000; employees, 500; annual product, \$500,000; wages, \$150,000. They manufacture annually 500,000 dozen of men's, women's and children's hose, made of cotton, lisle, wool, worsted and silk. Their product is sold throughout the United States. A large quantity is exported to Mexico, Central America, South America and Australia. Officers: Jacob Nolde, pres., and George D. Horst, sec. and treas.

Weber Factory.—In 1890, Louis Weber, Albert Weber and J. Geo. Kuersten came from Philadelphia and began manufacturing hosiery extensively at 809 Cherry street, trading as L. Weber & Co. In 1892 they purchased several lots of ground at 126 Orange street and erected a superior three-story brick factory and equipped it with machinery for an increased production to meet the demands of their trade. In 1896 the firm was dissolved, Albert Weber purchased the building and the greater part of the machinery, and with Harry Hahn as a partner, continued operations there, trading as A. Weber & Co. They employ 250 hands and manufacture daily 1,400 dozen different kinds and styles of seamless hosiery, which are shipped to all parts of the United States.

Bobst Factory.—William J. Bobst began the manufacture of seamless cotton half-hose, 84-needle, in 1891, on the fourth floor

of the Boas Building, Penn street near Eighth. He employed 75 hands, operated 68 knitting machines and produced 300 dozen daily. In 1895 he erected a factory on Pearl street below Chestnut and increased his business. He now employs 110 hands; operates 100 knitting machines; and produces 500 dozen daily. The product of his mill is shipped mostly to the South and West. Investment, \$25,000; annual product, \$80,000; wages, \$25,000.

Shantz Factory.—W. C. Shantz began in 1887. Factory is now at 1120 Muhlenberg street. Investment, \$10,000; employees, 90; wages, \$18,000; product, \$40,000, which is sent throughout the United States.

Kades' Factory.—J. P. Kades began in 1893 at 415 Moss street, to make gents' half hose and ladies' and misses' stockings of cotton and woolen yarn. Employees, 25; investment, \$5,000; annual product, 25,000 dozen, which is shipped to different parts of the country.

Helfrich Factory.—Winfield W. and Martin C. Helfrich began in 1895 with automatic machinery at 515 South Eighteenth street. They manufacture fine ladies' hose and ship to all parts of the United States. Employees, 7; investment, \$4,000; wages, \$1,500; product, \$14,000.

Penna. Knitting Mills.—In 1896 William E. Zieber and Charles W. Herbein began making fine half hose at 506 Kerper street with 30 hands and an investment of \$10,000. In 1898 the company was incorporated under the name of Pennsylvania Knitting Mills, with a capital of \$50,000. Employees, 65; annual wages, \$20,000; production, \$60,000, which is shipped to all parts of the United States. Officers: Wm. E. Zieber, pres.; Theodore P. Spitz, manager.

Achilles Knitting Mills.—In 1896 Samuel L. Dunkle started making fine ladies' and misses' hose. He employs 30 hands; operates 18 machines, (for 140- and 160-needle stockings) and produces daily 100 dozen, which are sold at New York City and in the West. His factory is at Front and Cherry streets.

Hawk & Longenderfer Factory.—George W. Hawk and Jacob J. Longenderfer started in 1896, with 4 machines and 5 hands. They now operate 20 machines, employ 26 hands and produce 200 dozen daily, which are forwarded to different parts

of the United States. Factory is at 154 Court street. Investment, \$6,000; annual product, 50,000 dozen, and wages, \$7,000.

Kuersten & Rick Factory.—J. G. Kuersten and J. G. Rick began in 1896 to make infants', women's and men's hose, from 84 to 200 needles, at 222 Cedar street. They equipped the factory with the latest machinery and produce weekly 4,000 dozen, which are shipped to all parts of the country through an office at New York city. They employ 125 hands. The factory was removed to Elm and Reed street, April, 1898.

Hendel Factory.—In 1897 Wm. B. Hendel began making hosiery at 15 South Front street. In February, 1898, he removed to 749 Cherry street. Employees, 30; annual production, 30,000 dozen, which is shipped directly by orders to all parts of the United States.

Steinhauer Factory.—Geo. B. Steinhauer began the manufacturing of 84-needle stockings in 1897, at Third and Franklin streets. Employees, 20; daily product, 100 dozen, which is sold at New York City.

DeHart Factory.—In 1897 A. J. & W. R. DeHart started manufacturing fine hosiery at Second and Buttonwood streets. They employ 20 hands, and produce 100 dozen daily, which are shipped mostly to the South and West.

Acme Factory.—John A. Albert started a stocking factory at Front and Franklin streets in 1897 with 12 hands for manufacturing 84-needle goods. He now employs 20 hands. Investment \$2,500; annual wages, \$3,500; product, \$15,000.

Eagle Knitting Mills.—John G. Fredericks started making gents' cotton hose in 1897, at Eleventh and Greenwich streets. Investment, \$4,000; employees, 15; wages, \$3,000; product, 18,000 dozen, which is sold at New York.

S. & S. Mills.—Mahlon L. Seidel and Rolandus R. Snyder began January 1, 1898, in the Eck building at Elm and Reed streets. They employ 18 hands and produce 1500 dozen monthly, which are shipped to customers in the Middle and Western States.

CREAMERIES.

The manufacture of butter at Reading by the creamery process was started in 1883 by Charles Spohn at 614 Penn street

and he made 300 pounds of butter weekly. He has continued the business until now, having increased his weekly product to 600 pounds.

J. O. Koller was the next to be engaged in it in 1886. Besides butter, he manufactured large quantities of ice cream, employing altogether 10 hands. He discontinued making butter in 1891.

J. R. Sharman carried on a creamery from 1889 to 1898 when he directed his entire attention to ice cream.

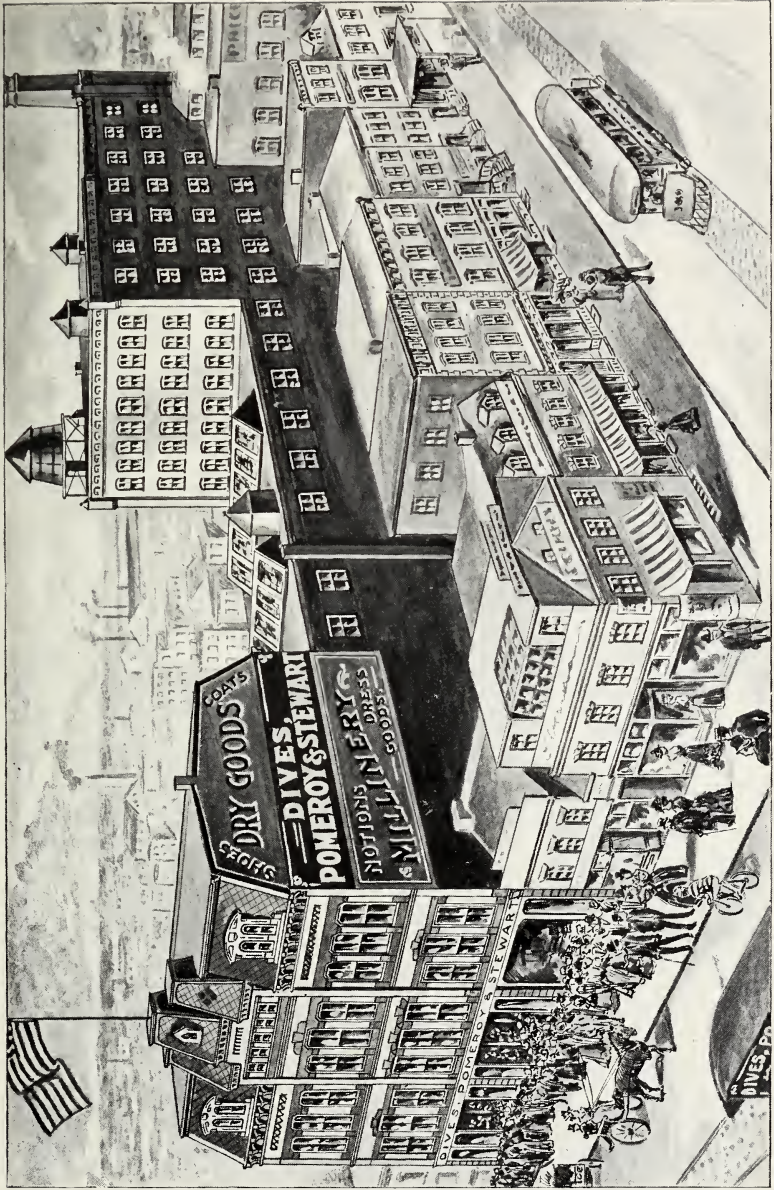
Wm. H. Spang and Peter R. Zacharias trading as Spang & Zacharias started a creamery at 826 Franklin street in 1893 with 5 hands and they produced daily 50 pounds of butter. They remained there, increasing their product gradually, until April, 1898, when they removed the plant to Washington street near Poplar. Daily product 600 pounds which is shipped mostly to Philadelphia and New York. Large quantities of cream are also sold there.

Joseph Stauffer began a creamery at 919 Cherry street in 1893. After operating it several years, A. S. Clouser became the purchaser. He manufactures over 100 pounds of butter daily.

DEPARTMENT STORES.

The dry goods merchants at Reading continued to handle distinct lines of merchandise in their respective stores until about the "Centennial" year; then the more enterprising proprietors began to add different lines of goods in order to satisfy the demands of their increasing trade. The first firm to start a department store here was Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart. This was in 1876. Afterward other firms followed and now there are six recognized stores of this character. Their influence in controlling trade directly and indirectly has led various stores to add other lines of goods besides that for which they are generally known. It may be added that the proprietors, in respect to enterprise, sagacity and success compare favorably with merchants anywhere else.

Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart.—Josiah Dives, George M. Pomeroy and John Stewart came from Hartford, Conn. in 1876 and began a general dry goods business at 533 Penn square, trading as Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart, and employing 15 hands. In several years their establishment, known as "The Globe



DEPARTMENT STORE OF DIVES, POMEROY & STEWART.

Store," was made thoroughly known in this and the surrounding counties, and their trade was developed to such proportions as to require larger quarters. So they removed to 442-444 Penn square, and the store at that place also becoming in a short time too small, they erected a superior large brick structure at 606-612 Penn street and established their store there in 1882. From that time, owing to constantly increasing trade, they have made enlargements in the various departments of the building, and now they have the largest and finest department store in Reading, and one of the finest and most complete in Pennsylvania, comprising altogether over thirty distinct departments. They employ from 350 to 400 hands. In connection with this store, they also conduct large department stores at Harrisburg, Pottstown, Pottsville and Altoona. The total employees number from 800 to 1,000 and the total volume of business runs into millions of dollars. John Stewart died in 1882, but his name is still retained in the firm name.

Kline, Eppihimer & Co.—In 1862, Amos K. Kline and Henry Eppihimer engaged in the general dry goods business at 522 Penn square. Jerome L. Boyer was a partner from 1865 to 1869 and Calvin K. Whitner from 1869 to 1877. In 1888 they enlarged their store, and also added the greater part of the adjoining building on the west, all four-stories in height, and then they made their place into a large department store. In 1892, they re-organized the firm by admitting William W. Kline, (son of the senior partner,) Richard Lenhart and Franklin Rieser as partners, and thence traded as Kline, Eppihimer & Co. At first they employed five hands; now they employ from 50 to 75.

J. C. Illig & Bro.—Jonathan C. Illig engaged in the dry goods business with Nathan N. Sprecher in 1872, at 420 Penn square, trading under the name of Illig & Sprecher. They continued until 1876, when Mr. Sprecher retired, and the senior partner's brother, Thomas B., for some years an employee, was substituted as a partner, the firm then trading as J. C. Illig & Bro. During the past twenty years, the business was increased very much, adding the adjoining building on the west, and then the second and third stories of both buildings, to meet the requirements of their trade. In 1886, it was made a department store. The employees now number 40.

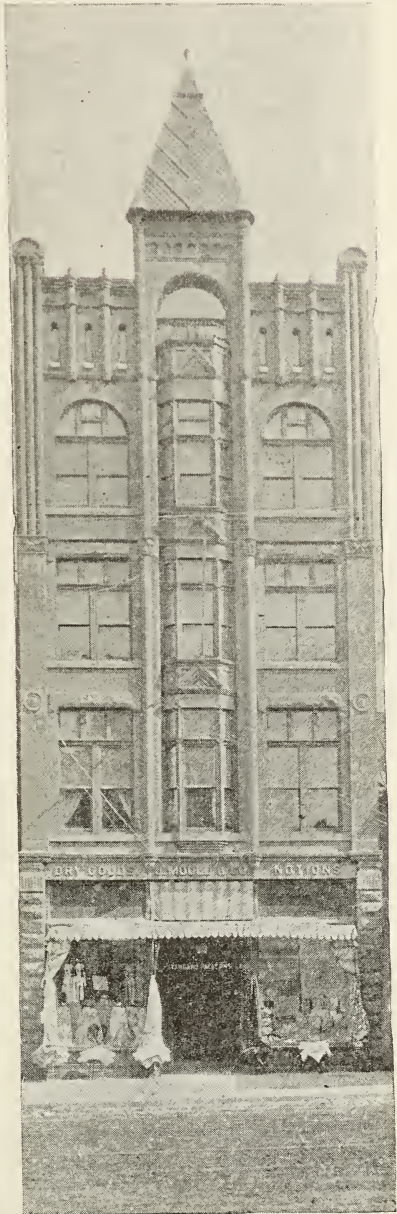
C. K. Whitner & Co.—Calvin K. Whitner, (the chairman of the Committee on History for the Sesqui-Centennial of Reading,) began his business career in Oley township, Berks County, not far from the place of his birth, when he entered the country store of Jacob S. Spang & Son at Spangsville, in 1861. He remained there as a clerk until 1865, when he went to Friedensburg and with Edwin S. Bear, trading as Whitner & Bear, carried on a store for two years. He then removed to Reading and was employed as book-keeper with Kline, Eppihimer & Co. for a short time, when he became a partner. After continuing in this firm until 1877, he started a dry goods store for himself at 432 Penn Square, with 6 employees. By the year 1883, his trade had increased so much that he was obliged to obtain larger quarters, and in that behalf he removed to the commodious store building 442-444 Penn square which had been vacated by Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart. In 1887, his son Harry became a partner and the store was enlarged to twice its previous capacity. The firm traded as C. K. Whitner & Son until the son's decease in December, 1890. In 1891, Mr. Whitner added other lines of goods and he made his place a department store; and by way of anticipating additional facilities for his growing business, he purchased two properties on the west, Nos. 438 and 440. In 1896, a faithful employee for many years, John A. Britton, was admitted as a partner, and the firm name made C. K. Whitner & Co. In April, 1898, the adjoining building No. 440 was attached to the store as an annex, and an interior direct connection was made, evidencing the continuous growth of the firm's trade. They employ 100 hands and upwards, and the stock comprises various lines of goods generally carried in a department store.

John S. Shade & Sons.—John S. Shade came to Reading from Alsace township in 1867, and associated with Wellington S. Levan in the dry-goods business for twenty years, starting with several hands and increasing the number gradually with the demands of their trade. In 1887, he located at 646 Penn street and established a department store for the sale of dry goods, notions, jewelry, housefurnishing goods, etc. His sons John H. and C. William became partners in 1896, and from that time they have traded as John S. Shade & Sons. Their business is large, affording employment to 35 hands, this number increasing to 50 in busy seasons.



DEPARTMENT STORE OF C. K. WHITNER & CO.

J. Mould & Co.—In 1872 Jonathan Mould removed from Newburgh, New York, to Reading, and opened a general dry goods store, which came to be popularly known as the "Bee Hive," employing 10 hands and doing an annual business of \$40,000. As his trade increased he made several changes in location for enlarged accommodations. In 1887 his brother-in-law, George H. Bell, became a partner and the business was thence carried on under the name of *J. Mould & Co.* In 1892 the firm erected a large four-story brick building at 647-649 Penn street and made it a department store to supply all kinds of articles, such as dry goods, notions, laces, furnishings, chinaware, jewelry, etc., and placed each department in charge of a competent manager. Shortly afterward, they added a wholesale department, and set apart the third and fourth floors of the building for this branch of their business. They have several traveling salesmen on the road supplying many orders to merchants in the surrounding counties. The employees number from 60 to 80, and the annual business exceeds \$200,000.



MOULD DEPARTMENT STORE.

ELECTRICITY.

Light and Power.—The introduction of electricity at Reading for light and power is described in Chapter I, Part III, Internal Improvements, page 52, where special mention is made of the Metropolitan Electric Company, and the application of electricity in lighting the streets, stores and public buildings, and in operating the street railway cars.

The first electric call bells were introduced and put up at Reading by John M. Bertolet in 1873, who was then a telegraph operator. Others who engaged in the business subsequently, together with wiring buildings for electric lighting, were H. K. Reber, Weimer Sands, Fred Row, Paul Anthony, Henry Hill and Willis Breidegam.

Reading Electric Supply Co.—Horatio K. Reber began to put up electric bells, gas lighting and burglar alarms at Reading in 1882. He continued in this business until 1890 when he added construction electrical work, such as motors, dynamos, isolated plants, electric lighting and interior work of every description, and continued the same until now, filling orders from different parts of Pennsylvania and other states, but mostly in Reading and vicinity. He has been trading as the Reading Electric Supply Co.

Reading Electrical Construction Co. Limited, was organized in 1894, with a capital of \$6,000 for the purpose of erecting electric light and railway plants and doing construction work of every description and wiring dwellings for bells and lighting. They have supplied various works and street car companies in different parts of Pennsylvania. Employees from 10 to 15; wages, \$6,000; annual business, \$30,000. Officers: A. V. Arrowsmith, chairman, and J. K. Righter, sec. and treas.

Richards & Willits.—In 1894, Paul D. Millholland began electric work of all kinds especially for light and railway plants, and for wiring buildings. In 1897 he was succeeded by Louis Richards, jr., and Samuel Willits, trading as Richards & Willits. They were engaged in business for a year, when they enlisted with the Reading Artillerists in the Cuban War and the Reading Electrical Construction Co. on that account became the purchaser.

EXPRESS AND TRANSFER COMPANIES.

Albright Express.—Soon after the opening of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad, Philip Albright established an express line for the delivery of goods and merchandise, and he continued in the business until 1872. For a long time he had an express car attached to the passenger trains, which enabled him to despatch shipments to Philadelphia and delivery at Reading.

Express Companies.—The Howard Express was the first company to locate at Reading, having established an office here in 1849 and continued until 1870; the Central conducted an office here from 1870 to 1880; and the Adams from 1880 to the present time. The P. & R. R. Co. Express started in 1872, and continued until 1889, when the business was transferred to the U. S. Express Co.

Local Express.—Edwin C. Hiester began in 1861 with 3 teams, transferring passengers and baggage and delivering freight. After carrying on the business for several years he sold out to Jacob W. Glase, who operated it until 1878, when Mr. Hiester resumed the business with his brother Gabriel O., as a partner, trading as E. C. Hiester & Bro. They continued until 1895, when E. C. Hiester became sole owner. He runs 11 teams. This firm also ran transfer coaches for passengers and baggage from 1885 to 1893.

Henry A. Brown began a local express with one team in 1873, and he has conducted the business since. He runs seven teams in moving furniture and delivering freight.

Obadiah B. Collier began doing a local express business in 1873, and has continued until now. He employs 4 teams.

Other persons started recently in the business and run one or more teams. Now they number altogether twenty.

Union Transfer Co.—In 1888 the P. & R. R. Co. began the business of transferring baggage and travelers at Reading with C. A. Dougherty as manager, and in 1889 cabs were added to the system. In 1893 the business was sold to the Union Transfer Co. which was conducting similar systems at Philadelphia, Pottsville, Trenton and Atlantic City. In 1896 they erected a large stable at Court and Cedar streets, costing \$25,000. They

have in daily use 30 horses, employ from 25 to 30 persons, and run 7 baggage wagons, 4 depot coaches, and 19 cabs, enabling the company to supply a service equal to any in the country. Investment, \$125,000.

FERTILIZER.

In 1891 K. Harry Cleaver, A. Thalheimer and Wilson B. Angstadt organized a limited co-partnership, trading as Reading Chemical and Fertilizing Co., for the manufacture of farm fertilizer, chicken feed, and disinfectant. They employ 40 hands; also about 200 agents for the sale of their productions in the Middle States. Investment, \$75,000. Factory is situated near Wyomissing, along Lebanon Valley railroad.

FIRE APPARATUS.

In 1880 Spawn & Dennison located at Reading through the assistance of John McKnight, for the purpose of manufacturing fire apparatus. They started in the Kreider carriage factory, on Pearl street near Franklin. In 1883 William A. Wunder purchased the business, including all the tools, patterns, etc., and he has been carrying it on in a successful manner since that time. The works are located at Green and Gordon streets. He manufactures hose-carriages, carts, tenders, jumpers and hook and ladder trucks; also fancy hose carriages for parading purposes, which have a high reputation for excellence of workmanship. His trade extends into different parts of the United States. He employs 12 men.

FLOUR MILLS.

Several grist mills were conducted at Reading for many years very successfully until western flour came to be introduced extensively; then competition caused them to suspend. Those worthy of mention were Lotz's, Reese's, Frees', and Molino. This suspension applies not only to the mills at and in the immediate vicinity of Reading, but to those roundabout for many miles with few exceptions.

Yocom Mill.—The only remaining flour mill in Reading is carried on by Aaron Yocom at Eighth and Elm Streets. It was established by him in 1871 and afterward equipped with roller machinery. He employs 9 men and produces 50 barrels of

flour daily. His trade extends to Ohio, but it is mostly of a local nature. Chopped feed is also made in large quantities.

Dietrich Mill.—Daniel F. Dietrich and his sons Elmer and Wellington organized the Penn Milling Co. in 1891 for the manufacture of flour. They operate a large mill in West Reading, near the Harrisburg bridge, which is equipped with fine roller machinery, employ 13 men and produce daily 150 barrels of flour which are shipped from Reading. Investment, \$30,000.

FURNITURE.

Cabinet-makers were engaged in the manufacture of furniture from the beginning of the town until 1873 and they supplied the demands of the people. Their shops began to be turned into stores and dealers took the place of manufacturers and this has continued until the present time. Articles of all kinds are made elsewhere, mostly in the Northwest, and shipped here for sale at much cheaper prices than theretofore. The major part of the dealers manufacture more or less, but only special articles ordered by customers.

GALVANIZING AND NICKEL-PLATING.

The work of galvanizing was begun in Reading in 1873 by Asaph Shenfelder, J. M. Shenfelder, his son, and Joseph P. Stoffer, his son-in-law, with William McCullough as foreman of the establishment. They carried on the business until 1877, when it was removed to Camden, N. J.

McCullough Works.—In 1877 Mr. McCullough took up the business at Reading. He has continued it until now, employing three hands, and doing all the galvanizing for the hardware and stove works. The only other place at which this kind of work is done here is the Reading Iron Works.

P. & F. Manufacturing Co.—In 1881, Robert Erhart, a German electrician, began a nickel-plating works on South Sixth street for stove trimmings and brass, bronze and metal castings. He was succeeded by William W. Kinsil in 1882 who removed the plant to 316 Maple street and carried on the same until 1885. Edward H. Smeltzer then purchased and conducted the establishment for six years. In 1891, Daniel F. Printz and Samuel H. Fulmer purchased the works from Mr. Smeltzer and formed a partnership, trading as P. & F. Manufacturing Co.

In 1895, they added the manufacture of bicycle sundries, including the "P. & F. Saddle" and afterward also tool-bags and pedals, having enlarged their plant as the business increased. The works are in three departments, nickel-plating, bicycles, and electrical construction. Their trade extends to all parts of the world, especially United States, England, Germany and Australia. They employ 150 persons. Investment, \$150,000. Annual business, \$250,000.

GAS.

The manufacture of gas at Reading has been a very important and useful industry for the past fifty years and it has been operated very successfully. It is however classed as an Internal Improvement, and the reader is referred to Chapter I, Part 2, page 51.

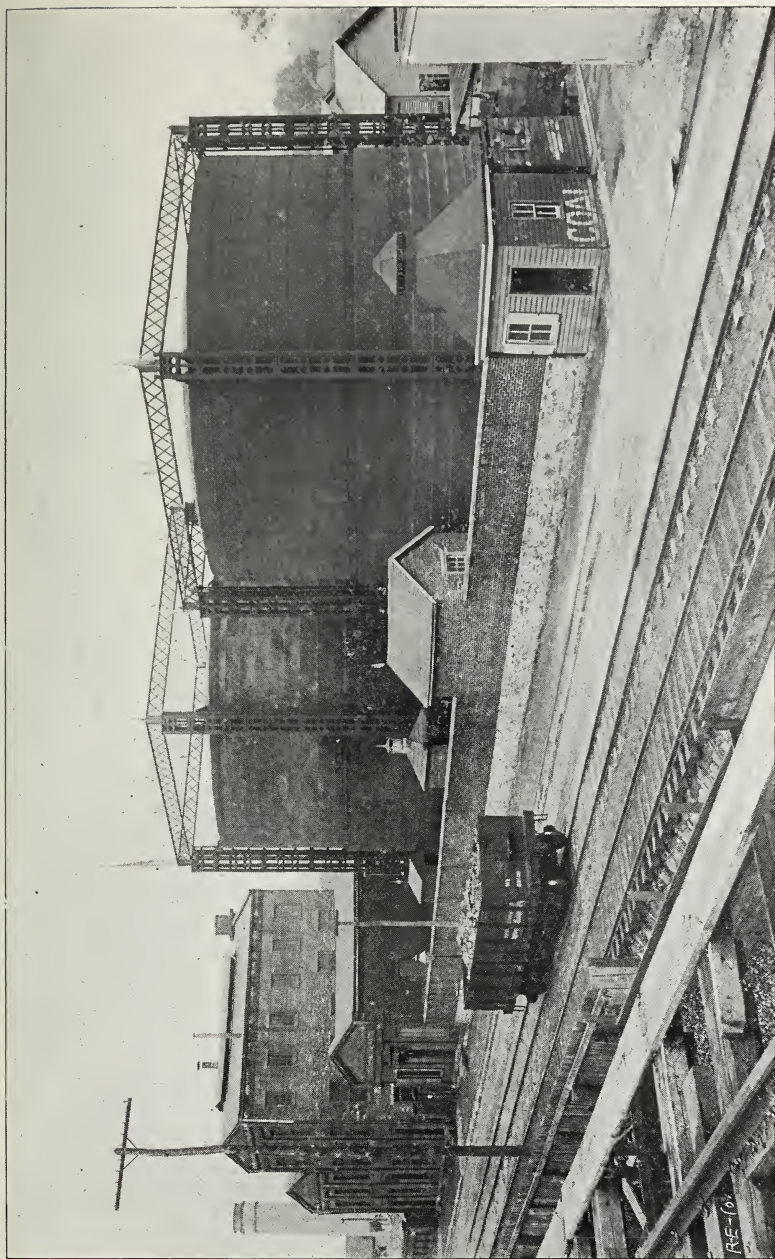
GLASS.

The first glass works were established in 1884 by Lewis Kremp on Ninth street below Laurel, and all kinds of fancy glass-ware, in all colors, were manufactured and shipped to Philadelphia, New York, Boston and Chicago. His son Joseph was the manager. Employees, 14; annual business, \$10,000. Not meeting with sufficient encouragement, the works were suspended in 1886, and the building was converted into a brewery.

Reading Glass Works.—In 1889, William M. Fox, Benjamin F. Fox and Eli W. Fox associated together for the manufacture of glass hollow ware, comprising all kinds of bottles from the smallest in size to the largest, and for that purpose leased the old Krick Mill on Canal street near the Lebanon Valley Railroad bridge. They erected a separate building for a factory and have carried on the business successfully at that place until the present time. The machinery is run by water-power, supplied by the Schuylkill canal, being the only industry at Reading operated in this manner. At the start they employed 35 hands; now they employ 65. Investment, \$40,000; annual production, \$80,000. William M. Fox died in 1896, and his interest in the business was purchased by Eli W. Fox. This is the only glass factory at Reading.

GLUE.

Levan Factory.—Abraham Ebling was the first glue manufacturer at Reading. His factory was on the north side of Cherry



GAS WORKS OF CONSUMERS' GAS COMPANY.



street midway between Tenth and Eleventh, and there he carried on the business from 1810 to 1840. Samuel and Daniel Levan, brothers, served their apprenticeship under him. The former was engaged in the business from 1830 to 1870, and his factory was at Franklin and Wunder streets for the greater part of the time; the latter succeeded Mr. Ebling and operated the factory until his decease in 1873. The building was a four-story frame structure, 32 by 66 feet. He employed 12 hands and produced 30 tons annually, which was shipped to Philadelphia, New York and Boston.

Upon the decease of Daniel Levan, the factory was removed to Exeter township on the Oley road near the Antietam creek. His son Joseph became the owner in 1875, who has since operated it, employing 18 hands and manufacturing 500 barrels a year, about 50 tons, which are shipped mostly to Philadelphia and New York.

GREEN-HOUSES.

Steckler Green-House.—The cultivation of flowers of various kinds to supply the public was begun at Reading by Michael Hauser about 1840, on premises adjoining the iron works of Keims, Whittaker & Co. He remained there until his greenhouse was swept away by the freshet of 1850, when he removed to North Eighth street near the junction at Spring street. After remaining there many years he established his place on Centre avenue opposite the Charles Evans Cemetery. He was succeeded by his son Francis. The greenhouse is now carried on by his son-in-law, D. H. Steckler.

Burnett Green-House.—Alexander Burnett was the next to engage in the business about 1850 on Centre avenue adjoining the cemetery and he continued it for many years until his decease in 1880.

Hepler Green-House.—In 1875 John C. Hepler (now superintendent of the Charles Evans Cemetery), began a greenhouse for flowers of all kinds on Schuylkill avenue and Greenwich streets where he has continued until now.

Hoskin & Giles Green-House.—In the same year Hoskin & Giles started on Mineral Spring avenue and Seventeenth street, where they have remained until now, with an additional plant on

North Tenth street near Court, employing altogether 15 hands and producing large quantities of flowers which they ship to all parts of Pennsylvania and adjoining states.

Connard Green-House.—Bertolette Connard was in this business at Fifth and Spruce streets from 1880 to 1890.

Hinnershots Green-House.—Dr. John S. Hinnershots erected a large green-house in Cumru township in 1891 and has carried it on extensively until now, his office being 113 South Fifth street. His plant covers $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres and embraces 15 covered buildings.

Others, more recently in the business, are E. H. Beears and R. M. McLenegan.

GUNS AND GUN BARRELS.

Guns and gun barrels were made at and near Reading along the Wyomissing creek from the beginning of the town, and continued to be made here from that time.

Nelson Delaney and Henry Schoener were engaged in their manufacture before and during the Civil War.

Louis Royet came from France in 1858, and located at Reading in 1867, making guns from that time until now, though for some years past he has been engaged mostly in repairs.

Daniel Gerhart learned the trade of gunsmith with Delaney, and he continued in his employ until 1873, when he started for himself. He has kept at it until the present time, and his work is also mostly repairs.

HATS AND CAPS.

The manufacture of wool and fur hats is the oldest prominent industry at Reading. It was in a flourishing condition when the borough was erected. The prominent hat makers between 1752 and 1783 were John Jackson, Samuel Jackson, Isaac Lebo, Matthias Hineine, Elias Youngman, George Schultz, Jacob Graeff, Peter Nagle, Sr., Peter Gross, Jacob Gross, Baltzer Henritze, Frederick Rapp, Jr., and Charles Bouchat. In 1795 Berks County had 38 hatters, and produced 2200 fur hats and 54,000 wool hats, the latter being one-third of the entire product in Pennsylvania. These were manufactured almost entirely at Reading.

In 1824, with the taxables numbering less than 1,000, there were 6 master-hatters, who gave employment to 450 journey-

men and apprentices, and annually worked up 20 tons of wool and manufactured 150,000 hats. The weight of a hat then was 11 to 12 ounces, and its dimensions were $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 inches high, $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 inches brim, and $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$ inches thick. It was stiff enough to bear a man weighing 200 pounds. Hats were all hand-made. A hatter could make 8 a day. He worked by the piece and earned less than a dollar. The colors were black and white.

In 1840 there were at Reading 14 factories, which produced annually 55,000 dozen wool hats; also 8 factories for fine hats which did a large business. In 1846 the estimated number engaged in making hats was 15 master-hatters and 50 journeymen. The average daily pay was 96 cents. The different colors were introduced in 1847. Hats began to be made by machinery in 1852. The first soft wool hats were made here in 1847 by John Lotz and his son David for John Maurer whose factory was on Penn street near Tenth on Lot No. 190. They weighed from 4 to 5 ounces, and were from 6 to $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches high.

In 1854 Moyer and John Siegel, brothers, were the largest manufacturers of hats at Reading. They employed 60 hands and produced daily 1200 hats, consuming 3000 pounds of wool weekly. John Kutz and his sons, Adam and Samuel, were engaged in the business for many years. David F. Lotz was also a manufacturer from 1856 until his decease in 1894, besides being a prominent builder. Isaac W. Levan was engaged in the business for 50 years, having started in 1840 and been prominent as a manufacturer from 1865 to 1890.

Previous to 1877 the wool hat was what was commonly known as the "Reading Hat," made on the Taylor sizing machine; then through R. H. Savage the fulling mills were introduced and an improved felt hat began to be made. He also introduced an improved felt for ladies' hats about 1878, and since that time the manufacture of ladies' hats has become a large industry at Reading.

Hendel Factory.—In 1860 John Hendel and his brother George, with their father, engaged in manufacturing wool hats at Adamstown, Lancaster county, and continued there until 1863, when the sons located at St. Lawrence, below Reading. In 1867 they came to Reading and carried on the business more extensively. In 1871 they purchased the Wyomissing woolen

mill at Fifth and Willow streets, remodeled the building and equipped it for manufacturing wool hats. In five years they came to have one of the leading industries at Reading, and one of the largest hat factories in the United States. In 1879 their sons became members of the firm which afterward traded as Hendel Bros., Sons & Co. In 1885 the production was 250 dozen a day, including all varieties. They employed 170 hands; the investment was \$150,000.; and the annual business, \$225,000. Their production was sold at New York. In 1895 Daniel J., Edwin F. and Harrison P., the sons of John Hendel, became the owners, and they operated the plant until the latter part of 1897, when they discontinued making wool hats, and began to convert the building into a fur hat factory. The firm purpose manufacturing fur hats extensively, which will afford constant employment for 300 hands.

Wetherhold Factory.—In 1866 Frank D. Nagle, William H. Parvin and Charles Melcher formed a co-partnership and carried on the manufacture of wool hats under the name of Frank D. Nagle & Co., at Tenth and Spruce streets for eleven years. In 1873 William H. Reinoehl became a partner. The firm employed 50 men and produced 120 dozen of hats weekly, which were shipped to all parts of the United States, the West Indies, and South America. In 1877 Mr. Reinoehl purchased the plant, and Robert H. Savage and Oscar B. Wetherhold became partners, who carried on business under the name of W. H. Reinoehl & Co. Mr. Savage retired from the firm in 1882, and Mr. Reinoehl died in 1895. Mr. Wetherhold then became sole owner and he has conducted the business since, under the name of O. B. Wetherhold & Co. The plant comprises six adjoining brick buildings, all of which are thoroughly equipped with machinery for the business. A fine grade of wool hats is made and also medium grades in black and fancy colors. In 1897 the production was 150 dozen daily, which were disposed of through a commission house at New York; the employees numbered 80; investment was \$75,000; and annual wages amounted to \$15,000. An addition was made to this factory in January, 1898, for manufacturing fur hats in connection with wool hats.

Mohn Factory.—In 1871 Jeremiah G., William G., Richard G. and John G. Mohn, brothers, trading as J. G. Mohn &

Bros., started manufacturing wool hats on Maple street below Chestnut. William died in 1874 and his interest was purchased by the surviving brothers. In 1878 they removed their plant to Eleventh street below Chestnut, having purchased the Kutz factory, and they conducted the business there until 1892 when the factory was destroyed by fire. They immediately erected new buildings and equipped them with the latest machinery for wool hats; and in 1895 built a large addition. Investment, \$100,000; employees, 200; annual wages, \$44,000; and product, 50,000 dozen, which is disposed of at New York through the commission house of C. H. Tenney & Co.

Miller Factory.—John R. Miller came to Reading from Pine Grove in 1870 to engage in the manufacture of wool hats. He was associated with several partners until 1878, carrying on a factory in Cumru township near the Lancaster bridge. In 1879 he established a large plant at the foot of Fourth street, and his brother Henry R. Miller became a partner. In 1885 they employed 100 persons, and produced daily 150 dozen. They have operated the factory in a successful manner until now. Employees, 160; daily product, 200 dozen, which is sold at New York.

Kessler Factory.—In 1876 Conrad F. Kessler began to carry on a wool hat factory at Eleventh and Spruce streets. In 1883 his son William H. became a partner, and some years afterward a second son George J., who have since traded as C. F. Kessler & Sons. They employ from 50 to 75 hands, and have a daily capacity of 100 dozen. Their production is shipped to New York.

Savage Factory.—Robert H. Savage came from Brooklyn, N. Y. to Reading in 1877, and after having been in the wool hat business with W. H. Reinoehl & Co. until 1882, started for himself. He erected a superior four-story brick factory at Thirteenth and Muhlenberg streets and equipped it with the best machinery. He carried on business under the name of R. H. Savage & Co.; employed 80 hands, and produced 75 dozen daily. In 1885 he increased the plant, and from that time until 1896 employed about 125 hands and produced 250 dozen daily. The annual wages amounted to \$30,000, and product to \$300,000. It has been operated by Geo. W. Alexander & Co. since 1897 in manufacturing fur hats.

Alexander Factory.—In 1878 George W. Alexander formed a woolen company consisting of himself, son Edward, and Frederick R. Frill for the manufacture of shoddies, and established a mill in West Reading, but not meeting with encouragement from the local hat manufacturers, the mill was converted into a wool hat factory and carried on until 1892, when it was destroyed by fire. Mr. Frill died in 1882, and thereafter the firm traded as G. W. Alexander & Co. The mill was rebuilt for the production of fur hats and equipped with the best machinery. The firm started with 35 hands and produced 15 dozen daily. They gradually increased the plant and product; now they employ 240 hands and produce 180 dozen daily. In 1897 they took possession of the Savage hat factory at Reading where they employ in addition 70 hands and produce daily 60 dozen. The total volume of business amounts annually to \$600,000 and the product is shipped to jobbing centres in Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

C. W. Hendel Factory.—Charles W. Hendel equipped a large factory on Third street below Pine with machinery for the manufacture of fur hats. This was in 1889 and he employed then 100 hands, and produced from 50 to 100 dozen daily. He has since increased the number of employees to 225, and the daily product to nearly 200 dozen which are shipped to New York.

Guenther Factory.—George G. Guenther organized a company in 1891 for the manufacture of fur hats with a capital of \$10,000 and located his factory on Court street near Tenth. Employees, 25; product is shipped to New York.

Westney Factory.—In 1895 Henry C. England purchased the wool hat factory of H. B. Hendel & Co., at Mohndsville and organized the Westney Hat Co. The company was incorporated in 1897 by Mr. England, Wm. E. Westney, George A. Heckman and others with a capital of \$15,000. Employees, from 50 to 100, and annual production \$60,000, which is shipped to New York. Officers: W. E. Westney, pres.; Wm. S. McKnight, sec.; George A. Heckman, treas.

Hendelton Factory.—In 1879 John, George and Henry Hendel, brothers, started a large wool hat factory in Cumru township along the Wyomissing creek, equipping it with machinery and employing 50 hands. The brothers John and

Henry retired in 1892, and George's sons, John R. and William H., became partners, the firm trading as George Hendel & Sons. The plant was continued as a wool hat factory until April, 1898, when machinery was introduced for making fur hats also. They now employ from 125 to 150 hands and manufacture daily from 200 to 300 dozen, which are forwarded to New York.

Montello Factory.—In 1887 John and George Hendel and their sons established a wool hat factory near Montello, south of Sinking Springs in Lower Heidelberg township, along the Cacoosing creek, trading as the Hendel Hat Co. The building was a three-story frame; they employed from 20 to 25 hands, and produced daily from 50 to 60 dozen. The partnership was dissolved in 1894, and George Hendel and his sons John R. and William H. became the owners. They enlarged the plant and operated the same since, employing from 75 to 100 hands and producing from 150 to 200 dozen wool hats daily, all of which were shipped to New York.

These two factories, though not situated in Reading, must be classed with its industrial establishments because the owners and operators are residents of Reading and their business affairs, particularly financial, are transacted here.

Caps.—In January, 1897, Thomas Fein, Abraham Berger and Harry Picom came to Reading from Philadelphia, where they had been engaged in making woolen cloth caps since 1891, and began trading as the Reading Hat & Cap Co., locating their place of business at 635 Penn street. They employ 10 persons and produce about 9,000 caps yearly, which are shipped to different parts of the country.

HORSE COLLARS.

Saddlers were amongst the first to carry on manufactures at Reading. They made harness, including horse collars. After the town had grown to a considerable population, about the time when the stages began to run, particularly after the canals had been put into operation, the making of horse collars became a business by itself. The first distinctive maker was John Reitmier, and he carried on a shop for many years. George Frees was a successful harness and collar maker from 1848 to 1872.

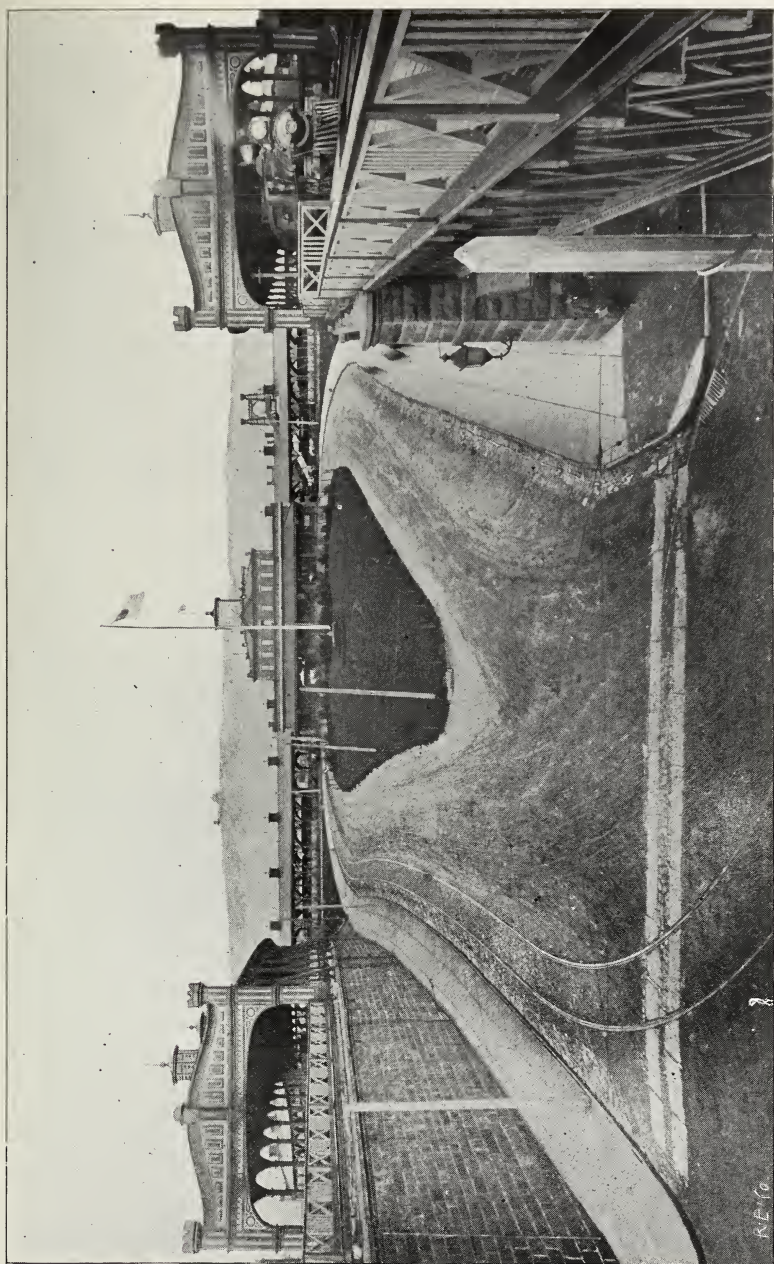
Nathaniel Gery made collars before and after the Civil War until 1870. He was succeeded by Christian Grunder at 8 North

exceed \$12,000,000, and annual product, \$15,000,000; the employees to number about 8,000, and the annual wages to amount to at least \$3,500,000,—this not including the P. & R. R. Co. works.

P. & R. R. Co. Works.—The extensive works of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Co. at Reading deserve special mention at the head of this part of the chapter detailing the industrial affairs of the city, on account of their continued existence here for the past 60 years, the large number of men constantly employed, and the immense amount of wages paid. The construction of the railway in 1836 immediately stimulated enterprises of various kinds, and caused large sums of money to be invested in manufacturing concerns. On that account not only capital but many mechanics concentrated here, and buildings multiplied rapidly to answer the demands of the increasing population.

The first large shop was erected in 1838 on the half-block on the west side of Seventh street between Franklin and Chestnut streets, where it has continued until now, and each decade found the company with additional facilities for the manufacture and repair of engines and cars, and for the handling of freight not only in the vicinity of Seventh and Chestnut streets, but on both sides of the railroad, extending beyond Walnut street for nearly two miles. The total income to a large number of working people of Reading from this source since 1836, exceeds \$50,000,000, and it can be stated that a great proportion of the substantial growth of Reading in buildings, stores, factories, churches and schools is directly attributable to the company's disbursements here.

The possessions of the company at Reading amount to an enormous sum; from which it is apparent that a considerable part of its receipts was also expended here in making large permanent improvements of the most substantial character. The principal office of the company at Reading is situated in the main railroad station at the conjunction of its several branches with the main line, and this has come to be the territorial centre of the city. The aggregate number of hands employed in the offices and shops and on the railroads at Reading in December, 1897, was near 3,000; and the monthly wages exceeded \$125,000, or a total for the year exceeding \$1,500,000.



UNION STATION OF PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILWAY COMPANY, AT READING.

At the passenger station there were 2,452 trains during December, 1897, which carried 66,650 passengers to and from Reading; at the freight depots there were 4,193 trains which moved 167,700 cars; and the aggregate tonnage directly affecting local interests at the several freight depots was 127,000.

The following statistics are supplied in this connection for the year 1897 to give the reader an idea of the wonderful extent of the business done by the company at Reading:—Passenger trains, 27,000; passengers carried, 800,000; freight trains over 50,000; freight cars moved over 2,000,000; tonnage, 1,500,000; excursion passengers, 80,338.

Most of its mechanics in the several departments have been recognized during the last 30 years, here and elsewhere, for their skill and efficiency; indeed so widespread has their reputation become that a statement in applying for work that they served their apprenticeship with the company, worked in its shops, operated an engine, or conducted a train, has been regarded as a sufficient recommendation. This can also be said of its clerks, many of whom have begun as messenger boys, and risen to the highest positions of different departments. A considerable number of its employees have been in continuous service for thirty and forty, even fifty years. This feature of the history of the company is particularly noteworthy.

Reading Iron Co.—The first large iron works at Reading were established in 1836 by Benneville Keim, George M. Keim, James Whittaker and Simon Seyfert, who traded under the firm name of Keims, Whittaker & Co., and were known as “Reading Iron and Nail Works.” They were located at the extreme southern end of the town between the Schuylkill and the railroad to facilitate the shipment of their products by canal as well as by railroad. The canal had been carried on for twelve years, but the railroad had just been constructed. These works were planned on an extensive scale, and comprised a rolling mill, slitting mill and nail factory; and here the first large stationary engine in Berks County was introduced for driving machinery. Bar-iron was made in large quantities; also cut nails by twenty-six nail machines. The employees numbered 250. In 1846, the firm name was changed to Seyfert, McManus & Co., and in 1862, the company was incorporated under the name of the

Reading Iron Works. The Tube Mill was added in 1848; Furnace No. 1, in 1853; Scott Foundry and Steam Forge in 1862; Sheet Mill in 1865; and Furnace No. 2, in 1874.

The Reading Iron Works having failed in 1889, the Reading Iron Co. was organized and incorporated in that year, and after purchasing all of the plants of the former company and greatly improving them, the following extensive establishments were added: Keystone Furnaces in 1889; Montour Rolling Mills at Danville in 1895; Reading Rolling Mill and Oley Street Mills in 1896.

The tube works, comprising four establishments, are among the largest in America. Their product consists of wrought iron, steam, water, gas, ammonia, and hydraulic pipe, casing and line pipe of every description, and oil well and boiler tubing. Their annual capacity exceeds 75,000 tons. A galvanizing plant is connected therewith for galvanizing pipes and tubes.

The blast furnaces are five in number, whose annual production exceeds 200,000 tons of pig-metal. Their products of a special and superior quality are made out of ore from the richest and best mines in the country.

The rolling mills are five in number with a combined annual capacity of 200,000 tons. Their product is grooved and sheared skelp iron, merchant bar-iron, angle iron, boiler plate and splice plates, beams, channels, tees and rails of every description.

The Scott foundry and machine shops produce cotton presses, sugar mill machinery, blast furnace engines, rolling mill work, tools, boilers, tanks, ordnance and projectiles.

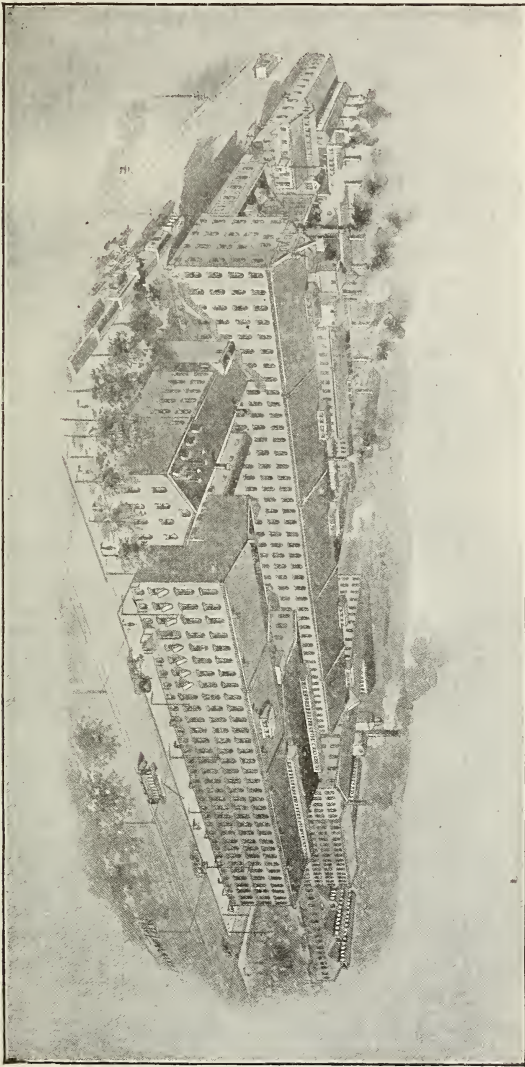
The steam forge is equipped with powerful machinery especially adapted to manufacturing heavy forgings for marine and engine work, and for machinery of every description.

The processes, by which the manufacture of the specialties named is conducted, are of the most perfect, and the utmost care is taken to maintain the highest standard of excellence. The products of the several plants are unrivaled and there is an increasing demand for them in all sections of the world.

The total investment is \$7,000,000; men employed from 3,000 to 4,000; annual wages, \$1,300,000; and product, \$8,500,000. The company is the largest industrial enterprise at Reading. George F. Baer is president, and F. C. Smink, treasurer and general manager.

Reading Hardware Co.—In 1851 William Harbster, a blacksmith, established a shop at the foot of Sixth street, for general

READING HARDWARE WORKS.

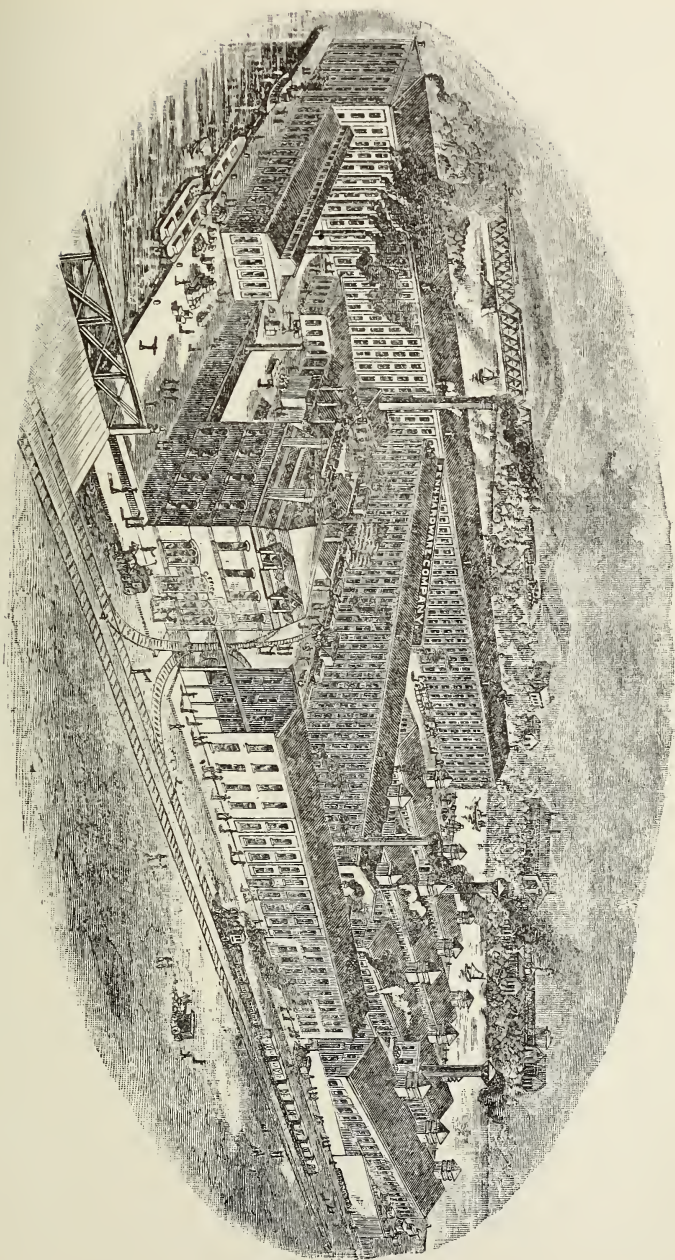


blacksmith' work. In 1852 his brothers, Matthan and John, associated with him, under the name of Harbster Brothers, for the manufacture of builders' hardware, such as locks, bolts, fast-

eners, latches, etc., and erected a foundry. They carried on the business successfully for six years, when William M. Griscom became a partner. They then traded as Harbster Bros. & Co., until 1872, when the name was changed to the Reading Hardware Co. Their plant was gradually enlarged and by the year 1895 the buildings covered five acres of ground, all 3 and 4 stories high; the employees numbered 850, and the annual wages amounted to over \$100,000. Their productions included all kinds and styles of hardware, both plain and ornamental, which were shipped to different parts of the world. The company was incorporated in 1886. In 1887 the greater part of their immense plant was destroyed by fire, involving a loss of over \$400,000, but they immediately rebuilt the establishment, the superior buildings being much improved in arrangement and equipment. They continued to increase their trade year after year, making a specialty of furnishing large hotels and office buildings at New York, Philadelphia and Chicago, with all the necessary hardware. In this they were very successful, for their unique and artistic designs in fine bronze obtained the preference with the most prominent architects and builders in the country. They have established branch offices at the cities named for displaying a full line of their productions. Investment, \$1,000,000; annual volume of business over \$1,000,000; and wages over \$400,000. Officers: Matthan Harbster, pres.; Henry C. England, treas.; John E. Harbster, sec.; G. N. Jacobi, gen'l manager.

Penn Hardware Co.—In 1877 C. Raymond Heizmann and Albert A. Heizmann began the manufacture of builders' hardware and hardware specialties of all kinds, at the foot of Spruce street, where they have continued until the present time, enlarging and improving their plant with increasing business. Their productions are shipped to all parts of the world. Investment, \$415,000; employees, 500; annual wages, \$200,000; and product, \$500,000. The company was incorporated in 1896. Officers: C. Raymond Heizmann, pres.; Theodore I. Heizmann, vice pres.; Albert A. Heizmann, treas.; Luke E. Fichthorn, ass't treas.; Irvin S. Ermentrout, sec.

Henry Clay Furnaces.—In 1842 Isaac Eckert and his brother Dr. George N. Eckert erected a furnace for the manufacture of



PENN HARDWARE WORKS.

pig iron, along the P. & R. R. at South street, and the machinery was made by Darling, Taylor & Co., which is said to have been the first produced by that firm at Reading. This furnace was the first establishment in the Schuylkill Valley at which pig iron was produced by the use of anthracite coal. In 1855 the furnace was enlarged. In 1868 Dr. George N. Eckert died and his interest was purchased by Isaac Eckert, who then conducted the furnace until his decease in 1873, when his sons, Henry S. and George B. Eckert, became the owners. The furnace was then carried on by Eckert & Bro. for twenty years. Henry S. Eckert died in 1893, but his interest is still held by the estate, and the furnace is operated under the name of Eckert & Bro. They employ 100 hands and produce annually 52,000 tons of pig metal which is shipped to different parts of the country.

McIlvain Iron Works.—William McIlvain was engaged in the business of manufacturing boiler plate at Gibraltar, Berks county, with Simon Seyfert and Henry A. Seyfert, from 1846 to 1856; then he established works at Reading on Neversink street at the foot of Eighth, which were successfully operated until 1897 and then discontinued. The works comprised 2 heating furnaces, a pair of plate rolls 72 inches long by 22 inches in diameter, and a Nasmyth hammer. In 1862 his sons Morton C. and William R. were admitted as partners, the firm then taking the name of William McIlvain & Sons. Additions and improvements were made in 1864 and 1873. In the latter year the rolls were enlarged to 87 inches long and 25 inches in diameter. In 1886 the production of boiler plate amounted to over 5,000 tons; afterward it was increased to 10,000 tons. It was shipped to all parts of the country. The investment was \$20,000, and the employees numbered 150.

Keystone Iron Works.—In 1854 Jacob Snell, James Mullen, Robert Bamford and Henry McCarty associated together for the purpose of carrying on a forge, erected a plant on Pine street, between Second and Third, equipped it with superior machinery (including four engines), and operated it for five years, when Jacques V. Craig, Benneville A. Glase and Lewis Koch became the owners. Subsequently it was converted into a rolling mill. Jacques V. Craig died in 1884 and his interest in the works was

purchased by his son John. Jacob Snell was connected with the establishment for a number of years. He died in 1894, and his interest was also purchased by John Craig, by whom it has been operated since. Average employees, 100; annual wages, \$50,000; product, 6,000 tons of boiler plate, skelp, tank, chute, stack, pipe, boat and car iron, but latterly principally skelp, which was supplied to the local market.

Reading Butt Works.—In 1867 Cyrus, John, Charles and James Rick, under the name of Rick Bros., erected a foundry at Third and Buttonwood streets, for the manufacture of builders' hardware, equipping it with two cupolas. In 1884 they established a tack works on the opposite side of the street for the manufacture of tacks, putting up thirty-three machines. Their trade extends throughout the United States. A considerable part of their production is exported through commission houses at New York. Investment, \$125,000; hands employed, 125; annual product, \$100,000. In 1895 Cyrus Rick, the senior partner, died and his interest was purchased by the surviving brothers.

Reading Radiator Co.—In 1883 Daniel L. Adams began the manufacture of steam and hot water radiators and boilers at 212 South Eighth street and continued the business at that place until 1892 when the plant was removed to Front street and Lebanon Valley railroad. In 1896 a new company was organized and incorporated under the name of the Reading Radiator Co., which has continued the business until the present time. The radiators and boilers of the company are shipped to all the Eastern States. Capital, \$25,000; employees, 25; annual product, \$36,000. Officers: J. Allison Orr, pres.; Henry McK. Schaeffer, sec. and treas., and Daniel L. Adams, supt.

Franklin Iron Works.—In 1840 Adam Johnson began the manufacture of iron castings at Eighth and Chestnut streets, and carried on the business for nearly twenty years. In 1844 he enlarged the plant and added a machine shop when it was called Franklin Iron Works. He made many iron cars for the P. & R. R. Co., producing 500 annually. By 1851 he had increased the product to 1,200, and then he added a department for manufacturing freight cars and he made large numbers of them for different railroad companies. From 1860 to 1882 the business

was carried on by his son, Adam Johnson, Henry Shaaber and Daniel Shaaber, under the name of Johnson & Son, and from 1882 to 1895 by Henry Johnson. In 1885 he produced 20 tons of castings daily. He employed 70 men, and at times 200. In 1895 Jacob Shaaber and H. John Herb purchased the plant, and they have since carried on the business under the name of Johnson Foundry and Machine Co. They manufacture all kinds of castings and general machinery which they ship to New York, Philadelphia, and elsewhere throughout the country. Hands employed from 100 to 125. Investment, \$45,000; annual wages, \$35,000.

Reading Foundry Co. Limited.—In 1848 John Mellert and his three sons, Arnold, Magnus and Otto, erected a stove foundry at Second and Grape streets, for the purpose of extending their trade in stoves, tinware and kindred supplies, which they had been carrying on for some years prior. They soon obtained so much other foundry work that the manufacture of stoves became secondary, and it was abandoned. In 1851 they began making cast iron, gas and water pipe, and as their business increased they enlarged their works. In 1860 they added a department for building passenger and coal cars, and also boilers. In 1876 they erected a new pipe foundry and called it The Centennial. In 1879 they re-organized the company calling it the Mellert Foundry and Machine Company, Limited, and under this name it was carried on until January 1, 1894, when the personal property was sold and the works were leased to the Reading Foundry Co., Limited. This enterprise is largely engaged in manufacturing cast iron pipe, special castings, and all kinds of general foundry and machine work. Its large plant is situated in North Reading along Robeson and Weiser streets. Investment, \$400,000; employees, 400; annual wages, \$100,000; product, \$350,000. Officers: P. D. Wanner, chairman; F. A. Knopp, treas.; R. B. Kinsey, sec., and A. H. Mellert, supt.

Reading Scale & Machine Co.—In 1887 Jacob S. Peifer, Levi M. Francis and J. L. Balloch associated together under the name of Reading Scale & Machine Co., for the manufacture of engines, boilers, scales and general machine work. They have conducted the business until now. Employees, 35; investment, \$30,000; annual product, \$50,000; and wages, \$15,000.

Their plant is at Cherry and Carpenter streets. It was first established in 1845 by Levi K. Mohr and Andrew DeHart for manufacturing large scales. They carried on the business until 1850, when Mr. Mohr became sole owner and he operated the place himself until 1872. He was succeeded by Roland, Francis & Co. who carried on the place from 1872 to 1878 and manufactured turbine water wheels in connection with scales; subsequently by J. H. Cheetham from 1878 to 1880, and by B. W. Grist & Co., from 1880 to 1887, the manufacture of general machinery having been added during that time.

Greth Machine Works.—In 1866 A. C. Greth and J. Lenhart began making engines and furnishing machinists' and manufacturers' supplies of all kinds, such as steam pumps, injectors, pulleys, hangers, cocks, valves, packing and belting at 627 Franklin street. In 1870 Mr. Greth became the sole proprietor, and he conducted the works until his death in 1885, when J. P. Miller and H. E. Deiningcr purchased the plant, who have operated it since. Investment, \$20,000; hands employed, 8; annual wages, \$4,500.

Davies, Printz & Co.—In 1871 Miller, Printz & Co. began an industrial establishment on Ninth below Bingaman, for the manufacture of brass and iron castings and machinists' supplies of all kinds. They carried on the business until 1886, when the firm changed to Davies, Printz & Co., which has continued until now. The members of the firm are Samuel Davies, John Printz, Adam Shaaber, William Schaffer and Howard Hill. The productions are steam engines, ice and refrigerator machinery, polishing machines, general machinery and brass and iron castings. Investment, \$35,000; employees from 50 to 60; annual product, \$60,000; wages, \$25,000.

Orr & Sembower.—In 1884 W. Harry Orr and C. H. Sembower, trading as Orr & Sembower, began the manufacture of vertical, horizontal and hoisting engines and vertical and horizontal boilers at Second and Pine streets. They continued there until 1891, when they removed to Millmont, in Cumru township, and took possession of superior brick buildings which they erected to accommodate their extensive business. Their trade extends to all parts of the world. A corporation was formed in 1890. Capital, \$200,000; employees, 160; annual wages,

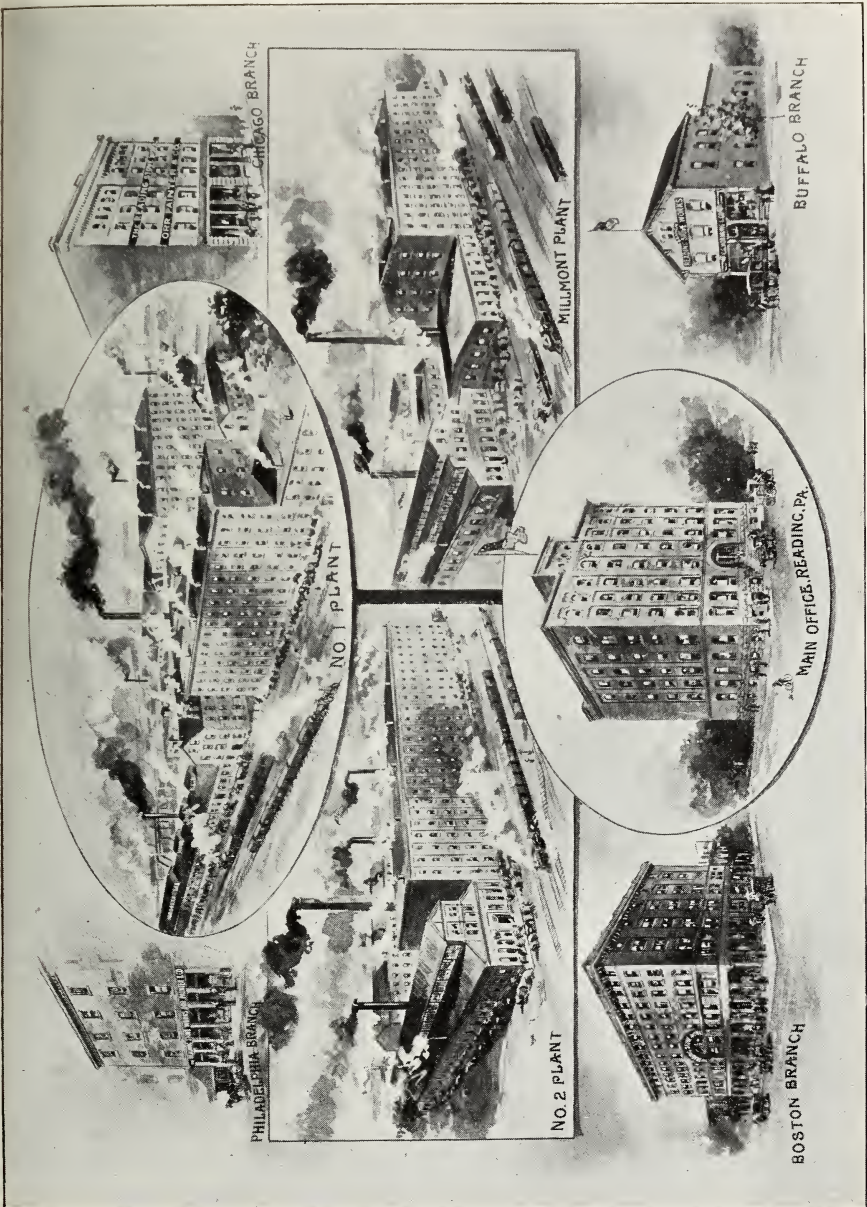
\$65,000; and product, \$200,000. Officers: C. H. Sembower, pres.; W. Harry Orr, treas.; and James A. O'Reilly, sec.

Boyer & Bro.—In 1891 W. H. Ermentrout and Frederick J. Boyer associated together as Ermentrout & Boyer for conducting a general repair shop at 132 Church street. Soon afterward they began to make new machinery for hats and gradually added others for manufacturing candy, paper boxes, hardware, drill presses, emery grinders, gas and gasoline engines, pumps, etc., still repairing machinery of all kinds. In 1897 Mr. Ermentrout was succeeded by William McH. Boyer, the firm then trading as Boyer & Bro. Investment, \$8,000; annual product, \$20,000, mostly for local trade; men employed, 15; wages, \$8,000.

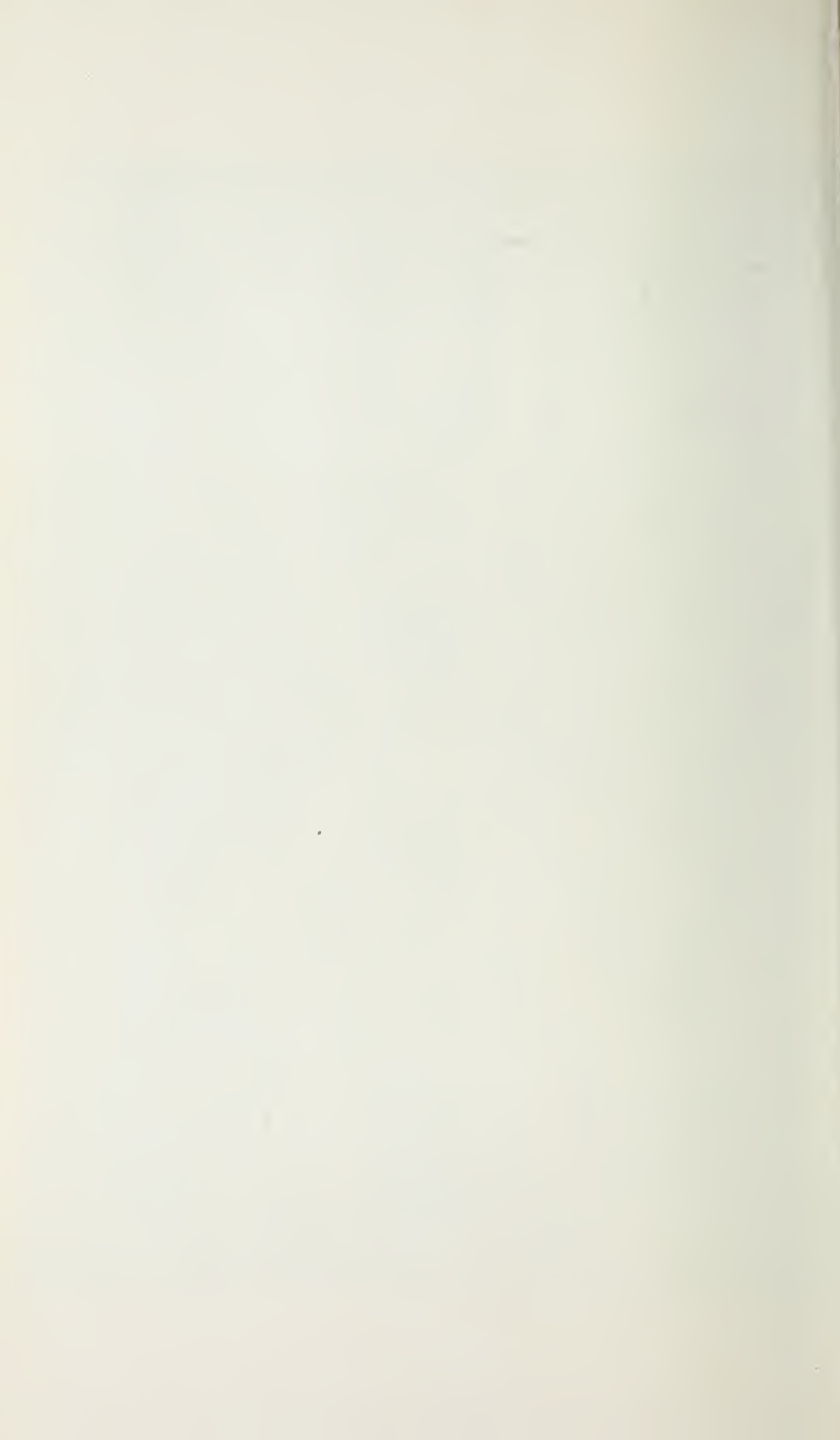
Berks Foundry & Manufacturing Co.—In 1893 William Macket, of Sunbury, Pa., came to Reading, erected a foundry at 1444 Mulberry street, and began the manufacture of small hardware. He employed 10 hands and had an investment of \$3,000. The business was carried on by him until 1895, when he sold the plant to Dr. John Ege. The establishment was enlarged in 1897. Investment, \$19,000; annual product, \$30,000; which is shipped to all parts of the country.

Reading Car Wheel Co.—In 1897 H. H. Hewitt, R. E. Coleman, and several other persons from Buffalo, N. Y., came to Reading and organized a company for the manufacture of chilled iron wheels for street and steam railway cars, and it was incorporated under the name of Reading Car Wheel Co., with a capital of \$50,000. They located their plant on Canal street below Spruce, and since then have operated the same very successfully, employing 50 men, and producing daily 225 wheels which weigh from 350 to 700 pounds each. Officers: H. H. Hewitt, pres.; R. E. Coleman, supt.; C. H. Duback, sec. and treas. They are interested in a similar enterprise at Buffalo, where 1,000 men are employed.

Reading Stove Works.—In 1866 Jesse Orr, John R. Painter, Peter W. Nagle, William Grander, Henry C. Posey, Elijah Bull, William H. Shick, Jasper Sheeler and Charles Egolf, associated together under the name of Orr, Painter & Co., for the manufacture of stoves, furnaces and heaters of all kinds. They located their foundry on Canal street between Chestnut and



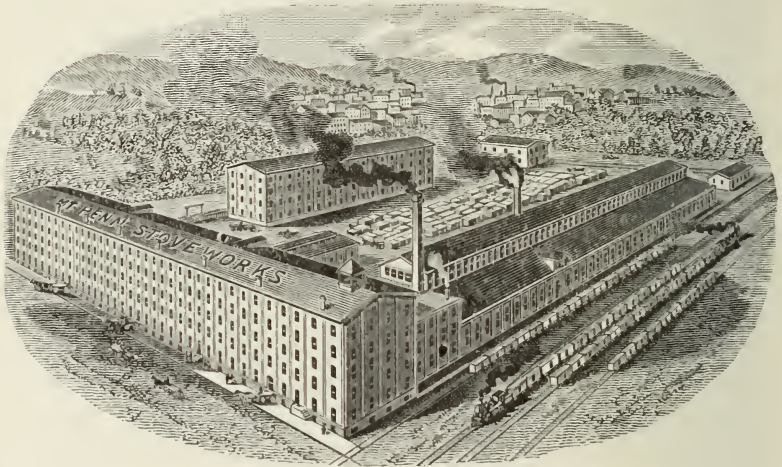
THE READING STOVE WORKS—PLANTS AND OFFICES.



Spruce, employed 14 moulders, and carried on the business in a very successful manner until 1886, when the company was incorporated under the name of The Reading Stove Works, Orr, Painter & Co., with a capital of \$400,000. The management of the business has been kept up in the same manner, with the plant enlarged and its business relations extending. Now the productions are sent all over the world, and the annual sales amount to \$550,000. The employees number 500, and the annual wages amount to \$200,000. Besides this large and complete plant, an additional establishment is carried on at Millmont. The company owns and operates branches for the distribution of its productions at Philadelphia, Boston, Buffalo and Chicago. The United States Post Office Department in July, 1897, awarded the contract to the company for supplying the street letter boxes for four years. Of the original co-partners, Jasper Sheeler died in 1876, William Grander in 1881, John R. Painter in 1883, Henry C. Posey in 1887, and Jesse Orr in 1892. Charles Egolf sold his interest in 1869 to William M. Staufer, who continued with the firm until 1881, when he retired and organized the firm of Staufer, McKnight & Co., trading under the name of Mt. Penn Stove Works; and besides Mr. Staufer, nearly all the practical men in that enterprise learned the business of manufacturing and selling stoves in the employ of Orr, Painter & Co. Officers: Charles S. Prizer, pres.; Elijah Bull, treas.; Robert P. Shick, sec.; and Enoch T. Painter, supt.

Mt. Penn Stove Works.—The plant of the Mt. Penn Stove Works occupies a large lot of ground at the corner of Third street and the Lebanon Valley R. R., extending to Greenwich street. The company was incorporated in 1882 by Samuel H. Kutz, John Hahn, Jacob H. Goodman, John McKnight, M. B. McKnight, Henry Seivard, Silas H. La Rue, Zadok W. Bowen, and J. Allison Orr, with a capital stock of \$50,000. The building at that time consisted of a foundry with a capacity for twenty moulders and a large 4-story brick building on North Third street. These buildings were put up by Staufer, McKnight & Co., in 1881, and transferred to the Mt. Penn Stove Works. Employees at that time numbered 65, including all branches. The buildings were enlarged and increased in number from time to time. Employees now number 100; and the annual pay roll

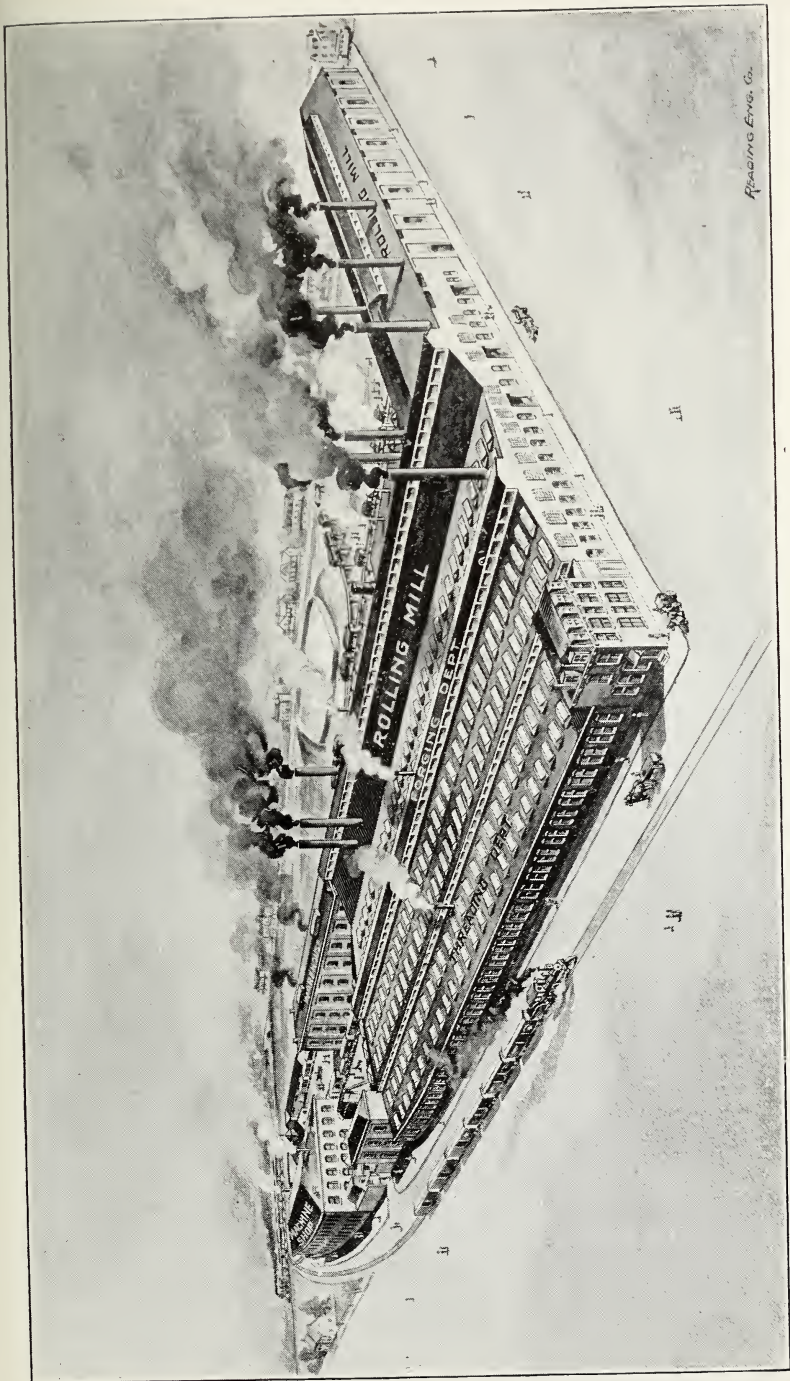
amounts to \$60,000. The annual consumption of pig iron for the last two years was 1,200 tons, and the annual production of stoves, ranges and cellar furnaces was 11,000, which were sold principally in the United States. For some years past there has been an increasing export trade to South America and South Africa. The company has a branch store at Philadelphia, with



MT. PENN STOVE WORKS.

distributing agencies at New York and Chicago. Investment, \$200,000. Officers: John Hahn, pres.; M. B. McKnight, sec. and treas.; J. Allison Orr, gen. supt.

Reading Bolt and Nut Works.—J. H. Sternbergh came from Saratoga, New York, to Reading in 1865, and began the manufacture of iron nuts. He erected an establishment at the foot of Pine street in the fall of that year, and carried on business with ten men. During the succeeding three years, he erected permanent buildings on North Third street beyond Buttonwood to meet the requirements of his increasing business, and in January, 1869, removed his establishment to that place. During the following twenty-two years, he increased his plant largely. In 1891 the buildings were destroyed by fire, and he immediately rebuilt them. The plant now comprises forging and threading departments, machine shop, ware house, two rolling mills, keg factory, offices, stables and other buildings, covering altogether an area of seven acres of land which lies between



Reading Eng. Co.

READING BOLT AND NUT WORKS—J. H. STERNBERG & SON.

Third and Fourth streets and extends from Buttonwood street to the Lebanon Valley railroad. The works are equipped with the most improved modern machinery for the manufacture of all kinds of bolts, nuts, washers, lag-screws, Harvey-Grip railroad track bolts, boiler and structural rivets, and merchant bar iron and steel. The rolling mills are equipped with five trains of three-high rolls, with six heating furnaces, whose annual capacity is 35,000 tons of rolled iron and steel, embracing all sizes of rounds and squares. The forge is equipped with power hammers, upsetting, punching, drilling, bending and forming machines to manufacture iron for bridges, buildings, cars and agricultural implements. The products have been awarded first prizes at different exhibitions for superior excellence of material and workmanship; and they are supplied to all parts of the country. At present the works give steady employment to over seven hundred and fifty men. The business is carried on under the name of J. H. Sternbergh & Son.

National Bolt and Nut Works.—This enterprise was incorporated in 1890 to manufacture bolts, nuts, rivets and rods for bridges and buildings. The trade extends throughout the United States and to foreign countries. The plant is in North Reading, and includes fifteen acres of land. Hands employed, 300; capital, \$300,000. Officers: C. W. Wilhelm, pres.; W. S. Davis, treas.; H. J. Hayden, manager.

Auburn Bolt & Nut Works.—In 1887 a bolt and nut works was established at Auburn, Schuylkill county, by an incorporated company for the manufacture of car-links, pins, boilers, rivets and bar-iron, and operated by Daniel J. Driscoll, of Reading, from that time until October, 1896. He employed 80 hands, and produced annually 2,000 tons which was shipped to all parts of the United States. Investment, \$30,000. Then a company was organized, the plant extended, the capital increased to \$75,000, and the machinery changed for the manufacture of hollow billets. These billets are converted into cold-drawn seamless steel tubing for boilers, bicycles, etc., and shipped to all parts of the world. Employees, 100. This enterprise must be included with the Reading industries, because it is controlled by Reading parties and capital. Officers: H. C. England, pres.; John R. Morrison, sec'y.; and Daniel J. Driscoll, treas. and manager.

West Reading Boiler Works.—In 1870 Enos M. Reazor began the manufacture of boilers on Canal street below Pine, and carried on the business until 1873, when Harry McCoy became a partner, and they traded under the name of Reazor & McCoy. The establishment was then removed to the foot of Chestnut street. They employed from 30 to 40 hands, and their annual product amounted to \$60,000. The firm continued until 1878, when it was re-organized by the withdrawal of Mr. McCoy and the introduction of Wilson J. Sterling, Daniel Weidner and Winfield S. Reazor as partners, who traded under the name of Sterling, Weidner & Co. This firm existed for ten years, employing the same number of hands, and doing the same volume of business. Then Daniel Weidner, David H. Fox and Thomas K. Dalzell carried on the business until 1894, when Mr. Dalzell became the sole proprietor, and he has carried on the establishment until the present time. Investment, \$30,000; employees, 40; annual product, \$60,000.

Penn Boiler Works.—In 1883 George C. Wilson and Hiram P. Yeager established the Penn Boiler Works at Front and Pine streets, for the manufacture of steam boilers, tanks, oil stills, pipes for brass furnaces, stacks, etc., and they have carried on the same until now. They employ 20 men and their trade extends throughout the country. Investment, \$8,500.

Carpenter Steel Co.—This company was incorporated in 1889, under the laws of New Jersey, for the manufacture of armor-piercing projectiles at Reading chiefly for the United States government, and the principal parties of this great enterprise were Dr. John C. Barren, George B. Newton, R. W. Hawkesworth, H. M. Hawkesworth, and James H. Carpenter. They purchased the Union Foundry property at the foot of Exeter street along the Pennsylvania Railroad (which had been carried on at that place from 1872 to 1885), and they then built a superior establishment to answer the demands of their undertaking. The company acquired in that year the American rights to manufacture shells after the then most approved European methods, and from that time they have been experimenting. The Carpenter projectile now stands at the head of the list for unsurpassed record in the penetration of the finest nickel-steel face-hardened armor that has yet been produced. In 1890 they began supplying experimental orders and

since then they have delivered to the United States government many thousands of projectiles, ranging in diameter from 4 inches to 13 inches and weighing from a few pounds to half a ton.

Though the manufacture of shells has been the most important business, the company has been developing a constantly increasing market for tool and die steels, especially adapted for severe work and great endurance. Their principal office is in New York city. They have sales offices and ware-houses in New York city, Boston, Chicago, Toledo, and St. Louis. This great establishment has contributed a great deal towards popularizing Reading as an industrial centre all over the world. Over 500 hands are employed, whose annual wages exceed \$200,000. Officers: John C. Barren, pres.; H. M. Hawkesworth, vice pres.; Lewis Gregory, sec. and treas.

Diamond Steel Co..—Walter Steel, of Sheffield, England, came to Reading in 1891. After having been connected with the Carpenter Steel Co. until 1893, he associated with Cornelius K. Rothenberger for the purpose of manufacturing steel, and they together erected a plant on Bern street, adjoining the Schuylkill and Lehigh R. R. They had an investment of \$16,000, employed 16 hands, and produced crucible steel which was shipped to the New England states. Edwin Sassaman becoming a partner, they then traded under the name of Diamond Steel Works; enlarged the plant to an investment of \$50,000; employed from 40 to 50 hands, and carried on the establishment until 1895, when they incorporated a company under the name of Diamond Steel Co., with a capital of \$100,000. They doubled the capacity of the plant, employed 120 hands, and their monthly sales amounted to \$13,000. They suspended operations in 1896. The plant is now operated by the Carpenter Steel Co.

Schmehl Mill-Wright Shop.—In 1870 Elias B. Schmehl began manufacturing mill stones and flour mill machinery. He carried on the business until 1895, when he transferred it to his son Heber. The factory has been at 154 Court street since 1882. The mill stones have been supplied from Bowmansville, Lancaster county. He employs from 6 to 9 hands. His trade is mostly local. Annual product, \$7,000; investment, \$5,000.

Chantrell Tool Co.—This company was organized in 1888, (being named after John Chantrell, an Englishman, who designed certain improved tools) and the business was conducted successfully on Seventh street near Chestnut for several years, when the plant was removed to Millmont where a large brick building was erected to meet the demands of increasing trade. The company manufactures bit braces, screw drivers, bicycle chains, nail pullers, and specialties. Employees, 200; capital, \$100,000. The productions are shipped to all parts of the world. George S. Pomeroy is pres.; Josiah Dives, sec. and treas.; M. J. Poindexter, gen. manager.

Wilkinson Shear Co.—In 1895 the Wilkinson Shear Co. was incorporated by Cyrus G. Derr, John M. Archer, Charles S. Prizer, J. H. Cheetham, Henry Eppihimer and others, with a capital of \$20,000, for the manufacture of sheep, horse, grass and hedge shears and they have continued the business successfully at Ninth and Bingaman streets until now. They employ from 15 to 20 hands and ship their products to all parts of the United States. Officers: D. P. Harris, pres.; John M. Archer, treas.; J. W. Wilkinson, supt.

Boss Knitting Machine Works.—J. L. Eck began making cotton hosiery with machinery at Kutztown in 1880. While so engaged he added various improvements, the first in 1889, and five afterwards, for which patents were issued. In 1891 he removed to Reading and directed his attention to the making of knitting machines. The business was carried on by Jairus Kutz and Ellen Diefenderfer under the name of the Boss Knitting Machine Works at Seventh and Walnut streets until 1898 when they removed into a three-story brick factory at Elm and Reed streets. They manufacture "The new improved 15-16 Automatic and Plain Seamless" machines; employ 35 men, and turn out from 15 to 20 machines a week, which are sent to all parts of the United States. Investment, \$10,000.

Textile Machine Works.—In 1892 Ferdinand Thun and Henry Janssen came from New York to Reading and started the manufacture of textile machinery at 224 Cedar street for making braids and dress trimmings and also electric wires and cables. In 1896 they removed their plant to a brick building at Wyomissing along the Lebanon Valley R. R., which they erected to

meet the increasing demands of their trade. They employ 55 hands and their production amounts to \$50,000 annually which is shipped to all parts of the country. Investment, \$35,000; annual wages, \$15,000. This is the only firm in the United States that makes this class of machinery a specialty.

Remppis Iron Works.—In 1885 William F. Remppis began manufacturing ornamental iron work near the Lancaster Bridge on River street in a small frame building, and the business was increased to such an extent by 1892, that a large brick building was erected. The plant burned down in 1896, but it was immediately rebuilt, much enlarged and improved. He turns out all kinds of builders', plain and ornamental iron work, fire escapes, stairs, elevator enclosures, railings, crestings, window-guards, grill work, etc. He employs from 35 to 50 men. Investment, \$30,000; annual wages, \$20,000. His trade extends throughout Eastern Pennsylvania. (See page 109.)

Speidel Iron Works.—In 1883 David Greth started a machine shop at Bingaman and Orange streets. In 1884 he sold the business to Frederick Gerhart and Mahlon Shaaber, who carried on the same until 1888. They then transferred the plant to J. G. Speidel who immediately enlarged the place and extended the business to the manufacture of tramways, elevators and hoisting machinery. He continued there until 1892, when he removed to 809 Cherry street, to increase his facilities for turning out orders. For two years H. P. Roeper was a partner. In 1896 they dissolved and he established a works at 233 South Eighth street, which he equipped with new machinery for making the articles named and also traveling cranes and fire escapes. He fills orders from all parts of the United States and some from foreign countries. Investment, \$15,000; employees, 12 to 15; annual product, \$25,000.

Reading Crane & Hoist Works.—After Speidel & Roeper dissolved partnership in 1896, H. P. Roeper remained at 809 Cherry street for one year, then transferred his establishment to Tenth and Bern streets, and took the name given. He manufactures traveling cranes, overhead tramways and chain tackling blocks, and ships his productions to all parts of the world. Investment, \$16,000; employees, 20; wages, \$8,000; product, \$25,000.

Kiefer Iron Works.—In 1895 William L. Kiefer started manufacturing ornamental wrought iron work of all kinds, such as fencing, railing, gates, grates, guards, gratings, fire escapes and iron stairs. His shop is at Fourth and Cherry streets, and he employs from 5 to 10 hands. His work is forwarded to different parts of Eastern Pennsylvania.

File Cutting.—The first factory at Reading for the manufacture of files and rasps of all kinds and sizes was established by Charles Stephen and his son Charles in 1866 at Eleventh and Buttonwood streets. They carried on the business until 1873, when the son died and another son Frederick succeeded him. The factory was conducted by them until 1882, when the son retired and the father operated it alone until 1889. He was a native of Baden, Germany, and came to Reading from Chicago in 1866. The product of the factory amounted to \$10,000 a year, and afforded in busy times employment to 10 and 12 hands. The firm made all the files used by the P. & R. R. Co., sending to the company a wagon load at a time.

File-making was a very early industry in Cumru and Robeson townships, but no factory for the production of files was carried on at Reading until 1866.

Frees Factory.—John E. Frees removed from near Mohnsville to Reading in 1885, and then began manufacturing all kinds of files and rasps. He employs 2 hands, and his annual production amounts to \$1,500. His trade is mostly local for supplying the shops, though he fills orders from distant places in Pennsylvania. His factory is on Bingaman street above Eighth. It is the only one of the kind at Reading.

Lock-Making.—The making of wrought iron door locks was one of the early industries of Reading. At first they were made by blacksmiths, who were expert workmen and capable of fashioning iron into almost any shape, and continued to be for many years. The most prominent and distinctive locksmith at Reading from 1825 to 1873 was John Miller, having been engaged during that long period at 932 Penn street. He came from Lancaster where he learned the trade. He was a superior mechanic and his locks were in great demand. Before 1860 he employed from 6 to 10 men, and when he had manufactured a large stock on hand, the men would carry them in bags on foot

through Berks and the surrounding counties, and dispose of them to the store-keepers. Besides locks, he also made strap hinges, turn-buckles, shutter-bolts, etc.

Another prominent locksmith from 1835 to 1850 was John Mellert. He emigrated from Germany in 1835 and, settling at Reading, he began making locks and wrought iron work. He supplied the locks for the Court House at Sixth and Court streets.

The next of prominence was Louis Neudoerffer, who began in 1859 at 428 Court street and continued in the business until his death in 1884, when he was succeeded by his son Frederick. In his time, the cast-iron door lock was largely substituted, and on that account his attention was directed chiefly to iron railings and fencing. The son continued the business at the same place. He is recognized as an expert on safe locks.

The wrought iron lock is no longer made for general use in buildings. The hardware works have come to displace the locksmith entirely.

Chain-Making.—About 1836 Nicholas Rapp, an experienced German blacksmith, emigrated from Bingen-on-the-Rhine to Reading, and began the manufacture of chains of all kinds to supply the trade at the hardware stores, and for a time for the Johnson Car Works. He continued in this branch of industry for fifty years, and during his time was the only one at Reading. He died in 1892. Several chain-makers attempted to carry on the business since then but they were obliged to suspend operations on account of the cheaper price of machine-made chains.

JEWELRY.

The jewelers at Reading always manufactured various articles, but almost entirely to order, and they were mostly dealers. After members of different secret societies began to make frequent demands for badges, charms and emblems of various designs, the business of manufacturing them was established. Thomas W. Sweny was the first to engage in it extensively, having started about 1865 and continued until now.

Willson Factory.—Thomas A. Willson opened a jewelry store at 524 Penn square in 1868, and in connection with it carried on a department for manufacturing society marks and also

spectacles. In 1871 he erected a spectacle factory and in 1872 directed his entire attention to it, transferring the jewelry business to his father Giles J. Willson and an employee, G. A. Schlechter, who traded as Willson & Schlechter until 1880. Then Charles G. Willson and George W. Clous succeeded Schlechter and the firm name was changed to Willsons & Clous. In 1887 Charles G. Willson became the sole owner and he has carried on the business successfully ever since. He employs 7 hands and manufactures all kinds of secret society marks and charms as a specialty, which he sends to all parts of the United States.

Schlechter Factory.—G. A. Schlechter was engaged as a jeweler with several parties from 1870 to 1890; then, besides carrying on a store, began to make numerous badges, charms, rings, etc., which he forwarded to all parts of the United States, and he has continued until now, employing generally 6 hands. He has been established at Sixth and Penn streets since 1882.

Anderson Factory.—In 1886 C. T. Anderson started making sulphur jewelry, consisting of rings, pins, badges and charms, and he has conducted the business quite extensively, employing 6 hands and shipping his goods to all parts of the United States.

There are altogether twenty-five jewelers at Reading, but they are mostly dealers or manufacture goods to order for local trade. The factories mentioned are most extensively engaged in the business.

LAUNDRIES.

General laundry work was begun at Reading in 1875 by Charles Ruth. He was engaged in the business for a short time when Soloman Hirshland and H. W. Adams became his successors. Hop Lee, a Chinaman, started about 1880. Joseph W. Auchenbach began the first steam laundry in 1879 on Seventh street near Cherry, and carried it on several years.

Excelsior Laundry.—In 1884 Charles E. and Morgan O. Witman, brothers, established the first extensive steam laundry at 139 Pearl street. Their business grew so rapidly that in several years they removed to Sixth and Franklin streets where they fitted up a large establishment. They located sixty offices for the collection and distribution of articles in Reading and elsewhere. It was named the Excelsior Laundry. In 1892

Raphael Austrian became the purchaser and he operated it until his decease in 1897 with Samuel E. Willits as a partner for several years. He was succeeded by Samuel Tinkler, who employs 25 hands and has fifty offices, mostly at Reading.

Penn Troy Laundry.—William Y. and Frederick A. Schmucker established the Penn Troy laundry at the southeast corner of Washington and Ash street in 1892. It is the largest laundry at Reading. The building is equipped with the most improved machinery, including a large ironing machine that weighs nine tons. A specialty is made of hotel and flat work. They employ from 50 to 75 persons, and have seventy-five agencies distributed throughout the city.

Reading Laundry was started by Annette Tounelier in 1880 with 7 hands. She conducted it until 1883 when she married Lewis C. Stringer, by whom it has been operated since. In 1895 it was removed to 527½ Penn square. He employs 26 hands; also 3 teams for delivering articles in all parts of Reading. Considerable orders are shipped to different parts of Berks county.

City Laundry was started in 1893 by Wesley K. Loose at Seventh and Court streets. He employs 10 hands and 1 team for delivering articles in all parts of Reading. He executes large orders of new work for shirt manufacturers.

Snow Flake Laundry.—John W. H. Harpst started the "snow flake" laundry at 308 North Ninth street in 1896. Employs 8 hands and 2 teams for custom work at Reading.

Model Laundry.—In April, 1897, Frank C. Stringer started the model laundry at 220 Washington street, and in April, 1898, removed to 144 Rose street. He employs 12 hands and 2 delivery teams for trade at Reading.

There are altogether fifteen establishments. Six of them are carried on by Chinamen.

LEATHER.

Kerper Tannery.—In 1763 Daniel Levan established on Sixth street near Chestnut, one of the largest tanneries then in Pennsylvania. It had fifty vats. During the Revolutionary war the establishment was one of the most prominent industries at Reading. It was carried on by him until 1801, and afterward by his sons Isaac and Daniel until 1808, when John Dieffen-

bach became the owner, who operated it until 1825. The succeeding owners were Abraham Kerper from 1825 to 1857, and his son Henry from 1857 to 1885, when it was discontinued.

Fichthorn Tannery.—Charles Fichthorn erected a two-story brick tannery on Chestnut street above Second about 1847, and with his brother William carried on the business until his death in 1853. They employed 12 hands and their annual business amounted to \$50,000. Then William Fichthorn, Andrew Fichthorn, Adam Fasig and Joseph Henry formed a co-partnership, trading as Fichthorn, Fasig & Co., and they became the owners and operated the plant until 1861. Andrew Fichthorn and his nephew Andrew purchased the tannery in that year and conducted the business successfully for seven years. Henry Kerper then purchased the property and carried on the business until 1886, when Oscar H. Haubner and William J. Heller, trading as Haubner & Heller, leased the plant and they have operated it since. They also carried on a plant at River and Hockley streets from 1891 to 1898. They employ 20 hands, and manufacture annually 35,000 oak-tanned calf skins, worth \$90,000, which are sold in all parts of the country, but mostly at New York.

Winter & Goetz Tannery.—In 1869 Anthony Blatz and Ferdinand Winter began the manufacture of calf and kid skins in fancy colors for gloves, shoes, suspenders, and actors' wear in a small factory at the foot of Jefferson street adjoining the Schuylkill canal, and they carried on the business under the name of Blatz & Winter until 1875. They employed from 6 to 8 hands and their product was shipped to New York and Boston. Then Mr. Blatz retired and Ferdinand Goetz took his place, the firm name becoming Winter & Goetz. The business was gradually increased until the construction of the Schuylkill Valley R. R. in 1883 caused the plant to be removed, and the firm then purchased the planing mill property at the foot of Pine street adjoining the canal. They made the necessary alterations and built a large addition. In 1885 they employed 44 hands and had invested \$60,000; now they employ from 70 to 100 hands and have a much larger investment. They established a store at New York in 1885 for the sale of their skins, which are shipped from there to all parts of the world. The

hides are purchased from importers who procure them from Arabia, Africa and Brazil. The firm also obtain large quantities of sheep and calf skins from the surrounding counties.

Tichel Tannery.—In 1892 Franz Tichel and his son Charles began a tannery at 36 Hamilton street for kid leather. They obtain the sheep and calf hides from the vicinity of Reading and produce weekly 75 dozen of fine skins which are sold at their store in New York city. Investment, \$12,000; employees, 10; annual wages, \$5,000; and product, \$55,000.

Other tanneries worthy of mention, operated for many years, but discontinued, were Manderbach's, (Second and Chestnut streets); Winter's, (opposite corner); Connard's, (Franklin street and Perkiomen avenue); and DeLong's, (Ninth and Muhlenberg streets.)

MALT.

In 1863 Frederick Schuldt and Moses K. Graeff began the business of making malt in large quantities, establishing a large malt-house along the P. & R. railroad below Muhlenberg street. They traded under the name of Schuldt & Graeff until 1867, when Mr. Schuldt retired, and Mr. Graeff carried on the business until 1895, when he discontinued it. The annual product amounted to \$75,000, which was shipped mostly to Philadelphia, Newark and Elizabeth. Mr. Schuldt started another plant in 1876 on Orange street near Chestnut and made malt there for six years.

Walton K. Hagy and Benjamin Pott carried on a malt-house on Third street near Elm from 1882 to 1891, when the Reading Malt Co., limited, was organized by Mr. Hagy and Frank P. Lauer. They employ 6 hands and produce annually from 60,000 to 80,000 bushels which are sold to brewers in different parts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

P. Barbey & Son began manufacturing malt in their brewing establishment for their own consumption in 1885, and they have continued until now, employing during the winter season 9 hands.

Most of the malt used here is manufactured elsewhere, the brewers requiring large quantities as evidenced by the great production of malt liquors.

MARBLE, SAND-STONE AND GRANITE WORKS.

Moers Marble Yard.—J. Frederick Moers started a marble yard at 214 Penn street in 1790, and carried on the business of manufacturing grave-markers, headstones and general cemetery work until his decease in 1816. He was succeeded by his son John F. Moers, and the business was carried on by him until his death in 1861, when the present proprietor, J. Frederick Moers, a grand-son, became the owner. This is the oldest marble yard at Reading, having been at the same location for more than 100 years.

There are eight marble yards at Reading for supplying grave-markers, monuments, &c.

Eben Sand-stone Works.—About 1850 Ferdinand Behm started a sand-stone yard for cutting all kinds of building stones at Sixth and Spruce streets. He was succeeded by John Dinkel who carried on the place until 1870, when Christian Eben became the purchaser, and he located there, after having conducted a similar yard on Sixth street above Chestnut since 1854. He continued operations quite extensively until his decease in 1890, when his sons Frank W. and William succeeded him. They traded as F. W. Eben & Bro. and carried on the works successfully until April 1, 1898, when they removed to Second and Franklin streets. They have employed from 40 to 80 hands, and their annual operations amounted to \$25,000 and upwards.

Getz Marble Works.—In 1873 Hiram S. Getz and his son James K. began sawing marble at Spruce and Canal streets, carrying on the business under the name of H. K. Getz & Son. They employed 7 hands and the annual business amounted to \$35,000; their trade having then been confined to Pennsylvania. In 1881 they removed to the foot of Second street, on Canal, enlarging the plant and introducing new machinery. In 1886 Hiram S. Getz died, and his son Hiram K. was substituted in his stead, the firm then trading as H. S. Getz's Sons. Their works are equipped with the most improved machinery. Employees, 20; annual business, \$125,000. The trade now extends throughout the Middle States. The greater proportion of the marble sawed by them is imported from Carrara, Italy, and the balance is obtained from this country.

Eisenbrown Granite Works.—In 1875 P. F. Eisenbrown located at Reading and started a marble and granite works at Sixth and Elm streets. After carrying on the business until 1889 he formed a partnership with his sons Harry W., Charles S., and George F., and also J. B. Faust, who have traded since then under the name of P. F. Eisenbrown, Sons & Co. Many fine monuments are made out of granite and marble, and granite fronts for large structures are erected in all parts of Pennsylvania. Investment, \$50,000; employees, 35.

Reading Granite Works.—John P. Dauth and G. A. Deemer opened a granite quarry in Cumru township in 1895 for the manufacture of paving blocks, curbing and building stones. Investment, \$4,000; employees, 20. Their product amounts to \$12,000, which is shipped to different parts of the country.

Miller Stone Works.—In 1892 August Haisch and Daniel Miller started an establishment at Washington and Pear streets for turning out building stone work with steam power, employing six hands. Haisch died in 1896 and Miller became the owner. He employs 12 hands.

MATTRESSES.

All the furniture dealers make mattresses and couches, and carry on upholstering in connection with their business, having always done so, but they do not employ men for mattresses alone. There is one factory at Reading for this product.

Hodges Factory.—In 1896 Fred G. Hodges came from Wilmington, Del., and located in Reading for the purpose of carrying on the manufacture of mattresses, in connection with a similar factory at Wilmington. He employs from 4 to 8 hands and produces about 5,000 mattresses annually, which are shipped to different parts of Eastern Pennsylvania.

METALLIC CORNICES.

Hain Works.—In 1872 A. J. Geissinger and Wm. T. Hain began manufacturing metallic cornice and ornamental work for churches, public buildings and dwellings at 827 Penn street. This consisted of copper and galvanized iron fronts, cornices, ceilings, finials, weather vanes, ventilators, &c. In 1873 Mr. Hain became sole owner, since which time he has conducted the place. His work is delivered to all parts of Pennsylvania. Employees, 8; wages, \$5,000; product, \$20,000.

Yeager Works.—In 1886 William B. Yeager and E. L. Garverich established a general cornice works at Eighth and Chestnut streets for manufacturing all kinds of ornamental and architectural metal work for dwellings, stores and public buildings. In 1891 Mr. Yeager became the sole proprietor. He fills orders from different parts of Eastern Pennsylvania. Employees, from 5 to 10; wages, \$3,000; investment, \$3,000; product, \$8,000.

Hafer Works.—In 1893 James D. Hafer began making all kinds of architectural metal work. His place is at 1046 North Eighth street. Employees, 7; wages, \$2,500; product, \$10,000, which is sent to different parts of Eastern Pennsylvania.

OIL.

Atlantic Refining Co.—In 1881 William S. Miller and Samuel R. Kerper, trading as the Reading Oil Co., carried on the business of refining oil at Reading until 1885, when they transferred the same to the Acme Oil Co. In 1892 the Atlantic Refining Co. became the owner and this company has carried it on until the present time. Reading is the central station for this company, which has thirty-three sub-stations in Eastern Pennsylvania, Western New Jersey and Northern Maryland. Employees, 28; production, all the different grades of naphtha gasolines, refined oils, lubricating oils and greases, paraffine wax and candles. There is a large storage capacity at each of the sub-stations, but Reading is the general office to which reports are made daily. Henry S. Comstock has been the manager since 1888. Officers: James McGee, pres.; C. E. Bushnell, sec. and treas.

OPTICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Reid Works.—Philip S. Reid and J. Ernest Reid, after having been employed for some years at Philadelphia as opticians, located at Reading, and organized the Standard Optical Co. in 1892 for the manufacture of ophthalmoscopes, trial frames, perimeters, pupilometers, retinoscopes, etc. at 132 Church street, and they have continued the business successfully until the present time. They started with 3 hands, now employ 13. Their productions are disposed of in all the large cities of the United States, being used principally by the students in the

different medical colleges. Their place is equipped with superior machinery, equal to that for the manufacture of the finest watches.

ORGANS AND PIANOS.

Bohler Factory.—Daniel Bohler was engaged in the manufacture of organs at Reading from 1820 for over 30 years, and his son Samuel afterward for fifty years. Both supplied organs for churches in the country districts in Berks and the surrounding counties, which were reputed to be superior in character. The latter died in 1896, his last factory having been on Bingaman street near Tenth. He was succeeded by Gideon S. Jefferies, January, 1896, who continued the factory until June, 1897. He employed from 8 to 12 hands and made 15 pipe organs a year.

Schoener Factory.—John B. Schoener carried on the piano-forte business at Reading from 1838 to 1870, and lived in retirement afterward, until January, 1898, when he died. He had worked at cabinet-making for 12 years, having learned his trade under William Weimer. His pianos were sold to different parts of Pennsylvania, but mostly in Philadelphia to dealers. They were square and all hand-made. He employed from 5 to 9 hands and made 15 pianos a year. Selling pianos on the installment plan by large dealers obliged him to discontinue. It is reported that a party at Reading preferred to buy an instrument of this nature at Philadelphia. Some time afterward it required repairs, and the owner was obliged to call on Mr. Schoener to remedy the difficulty. The maker (Mr. Schoener) recognized his handiwork, but the owner denied it, saying the instrument was made at Philadelphia, whereupon the lid was raised and Mr. Schoener pointed out his name in plain letters.

PAINT.

Wilhelm Works.—Aaron Wilhelm began the manufacture of paint at Easton, Pa., in 1857, and continued the business there until 1871, when he removed to Reading. His brother William H. was then associated with him under the name of A. Wilhelm & Bro., and they continued the business until 1878, when William H. retired and Walter S. Davis was admitted in his stead. From that time the firm traded as A. Wilhelm & Co. In 1889

Aaron Wilhelm died and a company was incorporated under the name of "The A. Wilhelm Co." of which Charles W. Wilhelm became president and Walter S. Davis, sec. and treas., they serving these positions until the present time. They manufacture paints of every description which are shipped to all parts of the country through distributing houses at Boston, Baltimore, Buffalo and Pittsburg. The establishment is situated on Poplar street beyond Walnut and comprises the largest paint enterprise in Pennsylvania outside of Philadelphia.

Ruth Works.—B. Frank Ruth was employed in the Wilhelm works from 1873 to 1884, when he organized a company for the manufacture of paints of all kinds, fillers for wood and iron, varnishes, japans, putty, &c., consisting of himself, C. Edward Hecht and Edward Scull. They traded as B. F. Ruth & Co. and established a mill at 229 South Eighth street. They carried on the business until 1894, when the mill was removed to 210 South Eighth street, where larger facilities were provided and Mr. Ruth became the sole owner. His productions are forwarded to all parts of the United States. Employees, 10; investment, \$30,000.

Jackson & Hill Works.—In 1896 Henry H. Jackson and Jenkin Hill formed a co-partnership, trading as Jackson & Hill, for making paints, etc. They purchased the establishment of Morgan-Ruth-Mohr Paint Co., which had been carried on at Eleventh and Muhlenberg streets since 1890, and removed it to 810 Windsor street where they erected a large three-story brick building and equipped it with improved machinery. They employ 11 men, and manufacture paints of all shades, putty, oils, varnishes and japans. Their trade is mostly of a local character.

Morgan Works.—In 1887 F. H. Morgan, after being in the employ of the Wilhelm works for some years, began the manufacture of paints in a limited way in connection with James Ruth on Court street above Second, and in 1890 William G. Moore became associated with them. They located the works at Eleventh and Muhlenberg streets and carried on the same extensively. In 1896 H. H. Jackson and Jenkin Hill became the purchasers, when Mr. Morgan established a place for himself at 122 Wood street.

PAPER.

The Reading Paper Mills is a corporation organized in 1886 with a capital of \$300,000, for the purpose of operating three superior mills in the manufacture of fine book and plate paper. The following sketch embraces the important facts of the three establishments.

Penn Street Mill.—In 1841 Philip Bushong, a prominent and successful distiller, moved from Reamstown to Reading, purchased a large brick building at the foot of Court street on the west side of Front (which had been occupied for several years previously as a machine shop) and converted it into a distillery. He carried on the business of distilling whisky there until 1865, when he substituted the manufacture of paper, equipping the building with the necessary machinery for that purpose. He died in 1868. The mill was then carried on for several years by his son George and his son-in-law Alexander Jacobs for the estate, and afterwards by his sons Jacob and Henry until 1887, when it was sold to the corporation named.

Packerack Mill.—In 1838 Asa Packer and Robert W. Packer purchased a large lot of ground at the foot of Bingaman street adjoining the Schuylkill canal from Daniel Seiders, a boat builder, and erected thereon a large warehouse for storing merchandise in connection with operating boats on the canal. In 1853 the premises were sold to George R. Frill, who then converted the building into a large grist mill, and he and Solomon Brubaker carried on the milling business until 1872, when it was sold to Jacob Bushong, Henry Bushong and George B. Connard, and changed into a paper mill. This mill was then operated by Mr. Connard for some years, and afterwards by him, Christopher Loeser and James Symington, trading as the Reading Paper Co. until 1882, when George F. Baer became the owner; and after the organization of the Reading Paper Mills, it was conveyed to the corporation. The building was enlarged and improved, and subsequently an addition was built to it to supply a department for coating paper.

Tulpehocken Mill.—Samuel Bell owned and operated a grist mill at the mouth of the Tulpehocken creek, in Bern township, for a number of years, and subsequently until 1866 it was known as the Kissinger mill. Then Benjamin F. Schwartz and

William H. Schwartz became the owners. They converted it into a paper mill, and carried on the manufacture of paper for two years. George W. Bushong then purchased the mill and operated it successfully until 1876, producing a superior grade of paper which had a wide reputation and came to be known in the market as the "Bushong Paper." The mill was afterwards operated by different parties until 1882, when George F. Baer became the owner, and in 1887 he conveyed it with the two mills mentioned to the Reading Paper Mills.

The three mills have been operated by the corporation named very successfully for the past 10 years; the Penn Street Mill producing fine book and plate papers; the Packerack Mill, book and coated papers; and the Tulpehocken Mill, manilla paper exclusively. The product of the first two mills has been disposed of principally to publishers and lithographers in the United States for fine book work; and of the last in the United States and England for making sand paper. All of them have been running night and day and have given steady employment to 150 persons. Officers: George F. Baer, pres.; Thomas O. Yarrington, Jr., sec.; and Chester A. Bushong, treas.

PAPER BAGS.

Hercules Factory.—In 1891 the Hercules Paper Bag Co. was organized by C. K. Hillegass, H. H. Hillegass, O. W. Sabold and J. W. Covert for the manufacture of paper bags. They located at Canal and Chestnut streets, beginning with seven hands and two machines, and a daily capacity of 250,000 bags. The business improving, they built several extensions to the factory and added five more machines, increasing the daily capacity of the plant to 1,000,000 bags. They manufacture eight different kinds for groceries, confectionery, shirts, shirt-waists, cigars and tobacco. The product is shipped mostly to all parts of the United States; some is exported to foreign countries. The quantity of paper consumed daily is 5 tons; employees, 25; annual wages, \$15,000; business, \$110,000.

Miller Factory.—William K. Miller began making flour sacks in 1880. He has continued in this business until now, making exclusively flour sacks out of rope stock. The annual production is 400,000, including all sizes. He has been in the Yocom building since its erection in 1893. Employees, 3.

PATTERNS.

Madlem Shop.—The making of patterns at Reading has been carried on almost entirely in connection with foundries. No pattern-maker established a shop especially as a business and carried it on for any time until Daniel Madlem started one in 1889. He has been occupied at making patterns since 1865, and at Reading since 1874. He makes patterns of all kinds and employs from 1 to 3 hands. His place is at 46 Madison avenue, having been there since 1889.

PERFUMERY.

Perfumeries of various kinds have been made for some years in large quantities by John B. Raser and Albert R. Durham, druggists, in connection with operating drug stores, which they have shipped to different parts of the country, but there is only one distinctive manufacturer of perfumery at Reading.

Gustave Pujol emigrated from Paris in 1868, and after remaining at New York several years settled at Reading. He has been engaged in the manufacture of perfumeries here since then selling his production through interior Pennsylvania.

PHOTOGRAPHS.

The first likenesses of persons by a mechanical process in the history of Reading were taken in 1841 by John H. Scott, of Philadelphia, after he had located here. They were daguerreotype in style. To obtain a correct likeness, the person was obliged to sit forty seconds. The cost of a copy was \$3.50. An artist named Salini succeeded Scott in taking this style, and he continued until about 1846. Charles L. Phillippi succeeded Salini. He made the first likenesses here by the photographic process in 1846, and continued in business until 1865, when he removed to Philadelphia.

Howard & Maurer located in the Jameson building at Sixth and Penn streets about 1852, and they carried on the business in the second and third stories for many years.

The most prominent photographers at Reading before 1870 were the parties named, and George W. Patton, John Lee, William K. Leaman, William H. Dietrich and Thomas Taylor; and those afterward who have been in the business for many

years are Charles A. Saylor, Frederick Yeager, Edward E. Hafer, John D. Strunk, John S. Fritz and William I. Goldman. Mr. Hafer took the photographs from which the illustrations in this compilation were produced.

PAINTINGS.

Certain artists painted portraits and scenic pictures at Reading between 1820 and 1870, and gained through their superior productions a high reputation. Their names were Genorino Persico, Jacob B. Schoener, James A. Benade, H. D. Torrey, F. D. Devlan, and Mrs. C. H. Townsend. Schoener was recognized as the finest miniature artist in the United States. He removed to Boston and died there.

The names of those afterward until now, who have distinguished themselves, are J. Heyl Raser, Amos Gable, Frederick Spang, Ben Austrian and Christopher Shearer, the last particularly having developed a national fame.

PICTURE FRAMES AND GILDING.

Woerner Factory.—Godfrey Graeff, a German, came to Reading in 1858, and carried on the business of gilding and manufacturing picture frames of all kinds. He continued until 1871. His place was at 635 Penn street. He was succeeded by Francis Woerner, who has conducted the business until now. Investment, \$6,000; employees, 3. Trade local.

Rieger Factory.—Reinhard Rieger was employed with Mr. Woerner from 1874 to 1879, when he engaged in the business for himself. Investment, \$8,000; employees, 3. Trade local.

PLANING MILLS.

The first planing mill for supplying building materials, such as doors, window frames, sashes and shutters, etc., was established about 1835 by Jacques V. Craig at Second and Cherry streets; and shortly afterward Levi J. Smith started a mill mostly for sawing timber and preparing floor-boards along the Canal near the foot of Washington street, which was subsequently operated for many years by Fooks & Bingaman, builders.

Eisenhower & Fink Mill.—Nathan M. Eisenhower was engaged as a builder before 1840. He carried on business for himself until 1845, when John Fink became a partner, trading as Eisenhower & Fink. Their shop was on Wood street below

Chestnut. They were general builders until 1847, when they started a planing mill, operating the machinery with horse power. They continued there until 1850, when they removed to Canal street at the foot of Pine, enlarging their capacity and substituting steam power for the machinery. During 1850 and 1851 they erected the Reading Cotton Mill, the St. James Lutheran Church, the Keystone Hotel (now Hotel Penn) and twenty-two two-story brick dwelling houses, employing 30 carpenters and 25 laborers. In 1866 Amos Huyett became a partner, and then the firm name became Eisenhower, Fink & Co. They remained there until 1874, when they removed to the wadding mill on Spruce street below Third, increasing their capacity and employing 90 men. They had then the largest building contracts at Reading. Eisenhower died in 1877, when the firm name became Fink & Co. In 1894 Mr. Fink retired, and a company was incorporated under the name of Reading Planing Mill Co. This company carried on operations extensively until February, 1898, when it was discontinued.

Shunk Mill.—William B. Hertzell after carrying on the business of builder and carpenter at Reading from 1835 to 1855, established a planing mill at Franklin and Carpenter streets and operated it until 1872, when he was succeeded by J. H. Cheetham. It was then run by Mr. Cheetham until 1883 with 20 employees and by Aaron C. Kline and Frederick Shunk until 1893, with 40 employees, when a company was organized, trading as F. Shunk Planing Mill Co. by which it has been carried on since. General mill work is done and the product is shipped throughout Berks and the surrounding counties. Investment, \$25,000; annual product, \$60,000; wages, \$22,000.

Gasser & Johnson Mill.—George Gasser, Sr., came to Reading from Myerstown in 1869, and began a planing mill at Ninth and Green streets for all kinds of mill work. He named it the Northeastern Planing Mill, because it was situated in the northeast section of Reading. He died in 1887, when his son George and son-in-law John W. Johnson carried on the mill, trading as Gasser & Johnson. They manufacture all kinds of mill work and fill many contracts in large building operations. Investment, \$40,000; employees, from 35 to 40; annual wages, \$16,000; and annual product, \$70,000.

Hampden Mill.—In 1886 Reber, Weinhold & Co. started doing planing mill work at 714 Court street, and the next year they located their factory at Oley and Locust streets. In 1888 the firm name was changed to Steely, Weinhold & Co., with Reily S. Steely, John H. Weinhold, Adam Bard and George W. Bard as partners. In 1889 the mill was burned down and immediately rebuilt. It was operated by the firm until April, 1898, when a company was incorporated under the name of Hampden Planing Mill Co. Investment, \$20,000; employees, 25; product, all kinds of mill and cabinet work in different kinds of wood for local trade. Officers: George W. Bard, pres.; Levi R. Snyder, sec. and treas.; John H. Weinhold, supt.

Central Mill.—Herman F. L. Rummel started a planing mill at 234 Moss street in 1889 with 12 hands. He has operated the same until now, turning out all kinds of mill and cabinet work, in hard and soft woods. Investment, \$40,000; employees, 25; trade in Berks and surrounding counties.

Horine Mill.—In 1888 Paul C. Horine began general mill work and made cases in the Remppis Works with 3 hands. In 1891 he removed his plant to 234 South Eighth street, largely increasing its capacity, and employing from 16 to 25 hands. The mill is now operated by his father M. C. Horine. Investment, \$12,000; product is supplied to local builders and dealers.

Excelsior Mill.—In 1894 Joseph Hodge, A. S. Potteiger, Isaac Sherman and James W. Kerst associated together under the name of the Excelsior Planing Mill, Hodge & Co., for general planing mill work. They located at 133 Pearl street, and began with several hands. They have increased their business and extended their trade to distant places. Employees, 25 to 35; annual wages, \$10,000; and product, \$30,000.

POTTERY.

Shenfelder Pottery.—Daniel P. Shenfelder established a pottery at 329 Schuylkill avenue in 1862 for the manufacture of stone and earthen-ware of all kinds, and it has been carried on until now. The factory employs from 4 to 10 hands; amount invested, \$8,000; and the product is disposed of at Reading and in the surrounding country districts.

PULLEYS.

Reading Wood Pulley Co.—In 1892 John C. Fiester designed a wood pulley and secured a patent. He organized a company and manufactured wood pulleys for a year, operating three machines and employing five men. In 1893 the Reading Wood Pulley Co. was organized and improvements were added to the pulley. The factory is at 247 Poplar street. Pulleys are made from 6 to 100 inches in diameter and from 3 to 24 inches in width. The largest thus far made in diameter was 14 feet and in width 44 inches. The product is shipped throughout the United States, also through South America and Europe. Men employed, 35; annual business, \$21,000. This is the only factory of the kind at Reading. The company was incorporated in 1893 with a capital of \$25,000. Officers: D. F. Printz, pres.; J. C. Holloway, sec.; S. H. Fulmer, treas.; H. J. Glaser, manager.

ROPES.

Jackson Rope Factory.—The first rope walk was established at Reading in 1829 by Thomas Jackson, an Englishman, along the southerly side of the Schuylkill canal between the Lancaster bridge and Jackson's lock. He then employed 5 hands and manufactured all kinds of ropes and twines. Until 1850, he had developed his plant so as to employ from 15 to 20 hands. The superintendent of the Schuylkill canal, Samuel Griscom, patronized him extensively whereby he came to make nearly all the ropes for the company and for personal owners of boats.

In 1850 the large freshet swept away his factory, and he located on First Hockley lane, between Eighth and Ninth streets (now beyond Greenwich street), transferring the plant from the extreme southern end of the city to the then extreme northern end. He erected a large 2-story building and continued to manufacture ropes and twines by hand-spinning. About 1862 his business increased very much and he then introduced machinery, increasing the employees to 25. His rope-walk was built to the length of 1,450 feet. In 1875 his son Henry H. was admitted as a partner, and from that time the business was conducted under the name of Thomas Jackson & Son.

The senior partner died in 1878, when the entire plant became the property of Henry H. Jackson, but the firm name was

continued. The business has been carried on very successfully until now. The works comprise three mills, and employ 150 hands. The productions are fine manilla, sisal and jute ropes and cordage, twines and packing yarns of different kinds, which are forwarded to all parts of the United States.

This rope-walk has been the only establishment of its kind carried on at Reading. Other persons were engaged in the business of manufacturing ropes, cords and twines at different times, in a limited way, but it was previous to 1860.

RUBBER TIRES.

Penn Rubber Tire Co.—In the beginning of 1897, rubber tires began to be introduced at Reading. A. H. Kretz and G. W. Biehl started a shop on Washington street above Poplar, for putting them on carriage wheels, trading as the Penn Rubber Tire Co. Shortly afterward, Robert T. Wetherhold embarked in the business with his father-in-law, J. A. Strohecker. They purchased the plant and have continued it since, supplying solid cushion and pneumatic rubber tires. They employ four hands.

SHIRTS.

The manufacture of shirts at Reading was begun by Samuel L. McCulloch about 1872. For a number of years he employed eight hands and disposed of large quantities, especially of the cheaper grades. Previously the demand was almost entirely supplied by stores; and many shirts were home-made. William Laramy carried on the business for a number of years.

McGowan Factory.—Nathan N. Sprecher began making shirts extensively in 1876, and he continued until 1890, when he was succeeded by John G. McGowan. The factory has been at 530 Penn Square, at the rear of his gent's furnishings' store for some years until now. His production is shipped to all parts of the country. Investment, \$15,000; employees, 9; annual wages, \$3,000; and product, \$25,000.

Brusstar Factory.—In 1880 James S. Brusstar and Albert C. Weile began manufacturing gent's shirts of all kinds. They continued together for a year when Mr. Brusstar became sole owner. He operated the factory until January 1, 1898, employing 35 hands and manufacturing 2,500 dozen annually which were sold in Pennsylvania and adjoining States. Then his son

George and Henry M. Rettew became partners, with the firm trading as Jas. S. Brusstar & Co. The factory has been at 713 Penn street since 1881.

Klawanski Factory.—In 1896 F. C. Klawanski started making men's and boys' shirts and overalls at 635 Penn street, and in 1897 removed to Eighth and Elm streets, when Julius Teuschert became a partner. Investment, \$5,000; employees, 50; annual wages, \$8,000; product, 8,000 dozen shirts and overalls which are disposed of in Reading and vicinity.

Filbert Factory.—Martin S. Filbert began making men's shirts and ladies' waists in 1897 for New York trade. Investment, \$2,500; employees, 32; wages, \$4,500.

Wm. Smith Factory.—Wm. M. Smith began in 1897. He manufactures men's shirts and ladies' waists, which are shipped to Philadelphia; employs 30 hands and operates 26 sewing machines.

A. L. Smith Factory.—Albert L. Smith came from Trenton in 1882 and opened a gent's furnishing store at 431 Penn Square. In 1887 he began the manufacture of shirts which he has continued. He employs 10 hands and produces weekly 25 dozen, which are sold in Reading and vicinity.

SHOES.

Curtis, Jones & Co.—Frederick W. Curtis and Frederick S. Jones, trading as Curtis, Jones & Co., began manufacturing children's shoes at Fifth and Penn streets in 1885. They employed 25 hands and produced 500 pairs daily. In 1889 they erected a substantial four-story brick factory at Fifth and Court streets, and supplied it with the latest improved machinery to meet the demands of their rapidly increasing business, and took possession in 1890. They now employ 175 hands and produce 2000 pairs of shoes daily. They also carry on a similar factory at Hamburg with the same production, having started there in 1895. In connection with manufacturing shoes, they have a very large jobbing trade which extends throughout the United States. Annual business, \$500,000; and wages, \$50,000. This is now the only shoe factory conducted at Reading.

There are numerous boot and shoe makers at Reading, numbering about 150, who manufacture in a limited way for customers.

SILK.

Grimshaw Mill.—In 1887 John, George and David Grimshaw, trading as Grimshaw Brothers, came from Paterson, N. J., for the purpose of establishing a silk-mill at Reading and operating it in connection with their large plant at that place, if properly encouraged in their proposed enterprise. In this behalf, a number of public-spirited citizens organized an association and secured subscriptions, amounting to \$65,000. The building committee comprised Henry Eppihimer, George D. Stitzel, Lewis Kremp, Jerome L. Boyer and William Rosenthal, who purchased a half-block of ground at Eleventh and Marion streets and erected a superior three-story brick structure 50 by 250 feet and leased it to the Grimshaw Brothers for a term of years, with an option of purchase; who then equipped it with machinery for the manufacture of silk, costing about \$75,000. They have operated the mill since then, producing large quantities of dress goods, lining, "throwing silk," and yarns, which have been shipped to New York. They employ 350 hands, mostly girls.

On January 9, 1889, the building was blown down by a tornado, the most destructive storm that ever visited Reading. The mill was in full operation at the time. Many of the hands escaped, but 17 were killed and over 100 injured. A public meeting of citizens assembled in the Court House on January 10th for supplying aid to the suffering families, and altogether \$12,000 was received from the people of Reading and elsewhere, which was judiciously distributed by a committee appointed for that purpose.

SOAP AND CANDLES.

Leaman Factory.—D. R. Hendricks began making soap at Reading in 1866 and was succeeded by his son-in-law, W. K. Leaman, in 1879, who has since produced annually 20,000 pounds for laundry purposes, and employed from 2 to 10 hands, according to the trade. The factory is at 128 Washington street.

Miller Factory.—Franklin K. Miller began making fulling, laundry, scouring and toilet soap and also washing powders in 1883. Investment, \$8,000; employees, 4; annual product, 800,000 pounds, supplied to local customers. His factory is on Eighteenth street near Perkiomen avenue.

Capallo Factory.—John Capallo began manufacturing tallow-candles in 1857 at 313 Spruce street. His annual product was about 50 tons, which was shipped to all parts of Pennsylvania, especially to the mining regions in Schuylkill county. He carried on the factory successfully until his decease in 1862, and his widow Mary A. Capallo continued the business until 1882, when she transferred it to their son John D. Capallo, by whom it has been conducted since.

SPALLS AND SAND.

There was a "gravel hole" at the base of Mt. Penn in Penn Common in a line with Washington street, and there the town supervisors obtained materials for repairing the streets for one hundred years from the time the borough was established, when the streets began to receive more attention than formerly, until the city took possession of the Common in 1886, and converted it into a park, as intended by the Penns when they set apart the land in 1748 for that purpose. During that time many thousands of tons were hauled away, making thereby an unsightly "hole" in the side of the mountain. Afterward the supervisors secured spalls from different parties, which were superior to the gravel from the hole for macadamizing the streets. Great quantities were produced in opening Twelfth and Spruce streets at and near their intersection. Asa G. W. Smith was the contractor. They were broken by hand and delivered on the streets in different parts of the town. This was started several years before the road roller was obtained in 1882.

Haak Crusher.—Michael Haak owned a tract of land on the northern declivity of Mt. Neversink and there he opened a place in 1850 for supplying gravel and building sand. Operations were carried on in a limited manner until 1895, when the heirs of Mr. Haak with George E. Haak as manager put up a crusher plant, and since then they have supplied large quantities of sand for buildings and concrete paving. Employees, 8; daily product, 75 tons; investment, \$7,000.

Thalheimer Sand Bank.—In 1861 Augustus F. Boas opened a place for sand on the western declivity of Mt. Penn at the head of Oley street, and large quantities were supplied for plasterers and also for foundries. Albert Thalheimer purchased

the land, comprising a tract of 10 acres, in 1878, and different parties carried on digging there until 1898, with an average annual production of 8,000 tons. Gallagher & Brisse are working one end of the large bank with 10 men; and Ahrens & Tobias the other end with a crusher recently erected and 20 men, for supplying building and paving sand in large quantities.

Fulton Crusher.—In 1889 William M. Fulton began quarrying and crushing lime-stone near the Lebanon Valley railroad bridge in West Reading for the purpose of supplying spalls. In 1896 he removed his plant to "Leinbach Hill" at the west end of the Penn street bridge. He produces daily 150 tons of spalls and delivers the greater part to the city or contractors in constructing streets and sewers. He employs 45 men and 20 teams.

O'Reilly Crusher.—Joseph P. O'Reilly erected a crusher plant on the Hill road a mile beyond the city line in 1896. He has operated it since, supplying the Highway Commissioners or contractors with the greater part of his product for street paving and sewer work. Employees, 22; annual product, 20,000 tons.

Building Stones.—The stones for the foundations of buildings, erected at Reading from the beginning of the town to the present time, were mostly obtained from the "White Spot" and the vicinity on Mt. Penn. The constant removal of stones from that spot gave the place a white appearance, looking from Reading or from any point westward many miles. The enormous quantity of material removed from this place during the past one hundred and fifty years, indicates the great value of the natural deposit. The stones were hauled by 2-horse and 4-horse teams by different parties who were paid on an average eighty cents a perch delivered.

SPECTACLES.

Willson Factory.—In 1871 Thomas A. Willson erected a three-story brick factory for the manufacture of spectacles and equipped it with machinery especially designed by him. He began operations in 1872 and then established the only place in the world at which were made all the parts that constituted a complete pair of spectacles. The sand for the lenses was obtained at Berkshire, Massachusetts, and the steel wire for the

frame was also obtained mostly in Massachusetts. The lens was tinted. All kinds of spectacles were made and a large business was developed that extended throughout the world. In 1885 employment was given to 240 persons, and the average daily production was 3800 pairs. The several machines were manufactured in the factory under Mr. Willson's direction and they are perfect specimens of superior workmanship. Owing to the great competition in trade; the manufacture of lenses was discontinued in 1886, and these are now imported from Europe in great quantities, of which a large stock is kept constantly on hand. Now the factory is devoted entirely to the manufacture of low-priced and medium grades of spectacles and it is the only one in the United States that produces exclusively the cheaper grades of steel spectacles and eye-glasses. The daily production is 10,000 pairs, and the average number of hands employed is 200. The proprietor's son Frederick Willson has been manager since 1893. There are only two factories in Pennsylvania and eight in the United States, and, excepting this factory, their product is mostly gold and silver frames.

SPICE AND ROASTING MILLS.

Keystone Mills.—George W. Moyer came from Easton, and in 1872 associated with John McKnight for the manufacture of spices of all kinds. In 1878 Mr. Moyer started for himself and carried on the business until his decease in 1889 when the mill at Rose and Elm streets was purchased by Kurtz & Mayers, wholesale grocers, by whom it has been operated since. Employees, 3; monthly product, 30 tons, which is shipped to all parts of Pennsylvania. Large quantities of coffee also are roasted in the establishment.

Blessing Roasting Mill.—In 1861 Francis X. Blessing and John Shoemaker began roasting coffee on Carpenter street near Spruce. In 1870 they removed to 311 Chestnut street, and shortly afterward Mr. Shoemaker died. Mr. Blessing then became the sole owner and he has carried on the business since. He employs 3 and 4 hands and roasts 1500 pounds of coffee and peanuts weekly, which are disposed of in Reading and different parts of Pennsylvania.

George Becker and Aug. Kleinschmidt are also in the business.

STAINED-GLASS WORKS.

Kase Works.—J. M. Kase, trading as J. M. Kase & Co., began making stained-glass work in 1885 at 511 Washington street. He designs and manufactures memorial windows for churches and artistic work for private residences, which he puts up in different parts of Pennsylvania. Investment, \$3,500; employees, 6 to 8; product, \$10,000.

Heine Works.—In 1895 George W. Miller, Sylvester Weise and James T. Barlow organized the Reading Decorative Glass Co. for manufacturing stained glass work of all kinds and started a factory at 128 Penn street. They carried on the plant until January, 1898, when Joseph A. Heine became the owner and he removed it to Nineteenth street and Perkiomen avenue. Investment, \$5,000; employees, 8; product forwarded to all parts of the country.

STEAM HEAT.

Reading Steam Heat Co.—In 1887 a company was organized by Isaac McHose, Wm. McIlvain & Sons, Levi Quier, John R. Miller, James Nolan and others, and incorporated under the name of the Reading Steam Heat and Power Co. for the purpose of supplying public and private buildings with steam heat, and a large plant was established on Elm street near Reed, comprising ten boilers with a capacity of 1800 horse power. Mains were put down along Sixth, Fifth, Elm, Walnut, Washington and Penn streets, measuring nearly 11,000 feet. The company now supplies over 300 buildings. Capital, \$100,000. Officers: John R. Miller, pres.; Lewis Crater, sec. and treas.

STENCILS AND RUBBER STAMPS.

Paff Works.—In 1873 Francis H. Paff began making stencil work of all kinds, police badges, corporation seals, and rubber stamps. In 1882 he located at 60 South Seventh street and has continued there since. He employs two hands, supplying orders from different parts of Pennsylvania.

Reber Works.—Horatio K. Reber has carried on rubber-stamp making since 1878. He employs two hands and manufactures a large number of stamps which he ships to all sections of Pennsylvania. He also made stencils from 1878 to 1885.

TERRA COTTA.

Fox Works.—John Lotz carried on a hat factory at the foot of Franklin street from 1800 to 1824; then Riah Gillson purchased the property and converted the building into a general store for the purpose of supplying boatmen with groceries, provisions, etc. It was continued as a store for about 40 years. In 1868 Eli S. Fox, Walter K. Hagy and Wm. Keely, trading as Fox, Hagy & Co., established a terra cotta works on the premises. In 1870 Hagy and Keely sold their interests in the business, and George K. Whitner became a partner, the firm trading as E. S. Fox & Co. Eli S. Fox died in 1890, and his sons William, Benjamin F. and Eli W. succeeded him, and they in 1896 purchased the interest of Mr. Whitner. They manufacture all kinds of terra cotta ware, especially stove-lining, sewer pipe and vases which are shipped to all parts of the United States. Investment, \$40,000; employees, 25; annual product, \$40,000.

TIN.

Reading Tin Plate Co.—In 1895 Howard L. McIlvain, Lewis Crater and Charles A. High associated together for the purpose of manufacturing tin and terne plate, and in 1896 incorporated a company with a capital of \$20,000. Their plant is situated at Front and Bern streets. They employ 15 hands, and produce about 9000 boxes of tin-plate annually, which they sell mostly to Reading dealers, shipping the balance to New York and Jersey City. Officers: Howard L. McIlvain, pres.; Lewis Crater, sec. and treas.; and Charles A. High, manager. This is the first industry of the kind at Reading and the only one carried on here.

TRUNKS.

Weightman Factory.—Joseph J. Weightman, of Bridgeton, New Jersey, came to Reading in 1888, and started the manufacture of trunks, bags, sample and extension cases at 402 Penn square, and has continued the same until now. He employs 3 hands, and produces annually 850 trunks and 500 cases, which are disposed of in Reading and vicinity. The amount invested is \$1800, and the annual product is about \$6,000. This is the first industry of the kind at Reading. Previously, trunks, etc., were purchased at the different hat stores; now this factory supplies many customers.

UMBRELLAS.

About 1847 Leopold Hirsch came to Reading and, after engaging in repairing umbrellas for a time, started manufacturing them, and he continued to do so until 1860 when he located at Philadelphia.

Rolland Factory.—In 1869 August Rolland, a Frenchman, began the business at 26 South Seventh street, and in 1879 he removed to 639 Penn street. The business has been carried on there since. Mrs. Mary Rolland is operating the factory assisted by her sons. She employs 6 hands.

Others in the business are Mrs. Rose Miller and William M. Parvin, but they are mostly engaged in selling ready-made umbrellas and making repairs.

WASHING MACHINES.

Sunbeam Washer.—In 1890 Reuben Hoffa, Jonah Keim, Thomas Eckert and Franklin Albright organized a company, trading as Sunbeam Manuf'g Co., Limited, for the manufacture of the Sunbeam washing machine. For several years the business was carried on extensively, producing several thousand washers a year, but now only two hands are employed and 60 machines are made monthly. Investment, \$4,000. Trade mostly local.

Lessig Washer.—Samuel Lessig, Sr., was engaged in making and repairing farming implements at Reading for 38 years, from 1849 to 1887. In 1893 he designed and patented an improved washing machine, which he named the "Lessig." He has manufactured the machine mostly alone, producing annually over 100 machines, and selling them in Reading and vicinity.

Queen Washer.—Nathan S. Althouse patented an improved washing machine in 1895, which he named the "Queen," and he and his partner, J. H. Knoll, trading as Knoll & Althouse, (who were engaged in making farming implements,) then directed their attention to its manufacture. They employ 5 hands in their factory at Muhlenberg and Orange streets, and produce monthly over 200 machines which are sold in Pennsylvania and the adjoining States.

WOOLEN GOODS.

Reading Woolen Mills.—Robert M. Shouse, of Easton, came to Reading in 1859, and began the manufacture of gingham and shirting check. Some months afterward his enterprise was destroyed by fire. He then selected a lot on Fourth street beyond Elm as a suitable location and erected a two-story stone factory with basement where he resumed the manufacture of the articles mentioned, and continued the same until 1864, when he converted it into a woolen mill for manufacturing jeans, plaids and doe-skin cloths. Jonathan G. Leinbach became the manager and in 1867 he was made a partner, the firm trading under the name of R. M. Shouse & Co. They employed 50 hands and their annual production amounted to \$100,000, which was shipped to commission houses at New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore. The firm continued operations until 1875, when Mr. Leinbach became the sole owner. Shortly afterward he formed a co-partnership with Aaron S. Leinbach and William F. P. Davis, who traded as J. G. Leinbach & Co. In 1880 John Shadel became a partner. In 1887 Rev. Davis died and his interest was purchased by Mr. Leinbach.

In 1889 the senior member gave an interest in the business to his three brothers, Daniel, Albert and Mahlon; and in 1894, appreciating the long-continued fidelity of certain of the older employees who had worked in the mill from twenty to thirty years, he also gave them an interest. In 1896 Aaron S. Leinbach died, and the surviving partners (Leinbach and Shadel,) purchased his interest.

After the firm had organized in 1875, improvements were made to the plant, additional ground was purchased, and new machinery was introduced from time to time. In 1880 the manufacture of jeans was discontinued. The volume of business increased steadily, and with it the number of hands. In 1889 the annual business amounted to over \$200,000. The product of the mill is now entirely woolen cloths. Investment, \$130,000; hands employed, 75; annual wages, \$30,000; business, \$192,000, the amount having fallen off owing to the prevailing panic.

The plant is equipped with the best machinery, including 4 self-acting spinning machines with 1508 spindles, and a 100-

horse-power Corliss engine. The enterprise has been named the Reading Woolen Mill, and the manufactured cloths are so known in the market, having a superior reputation. This is the only enterprise at Reading in which the older and more experienced hands have been permitted to share in the profits of the business. The generosity of the senior member has been appreciated and it has resulted in mutual benefits, as well to the firm as to the recipients.

Stony Creek Mills.—On the Friedensburg road at the point where it crosses the Antietam creek a paper mill was carried on for many years. In 1864 Louis Kraemer and others established a woolen mill there, and it has been operated very successfully until the present time. The strong stream provided a valuable water power which was the principal consideration that induced the erection of the mill, but in 1875 the water was appropriated by the City of Reading for an increased supply and steam-power had to be substituted. Different parties were connected with the firm until 1893, when a re-organization was effected with Louis Kraemer, Louis F. Kraemer, Louis F. Grebe and Martin D. Hunter as partners, trading as Louis Kraemer & Co. The mill produces 7,200 yards of men's cassimers weekly; annual product, \$180,000, which is sold in all parts of the United States. Employees, 70. This industry, though four miles from Reading, is identified with its establishments and therefore included in this chapter.

PART IV.—SITUATION OF READING IN 1898.

From the foregoing facts, it is evident that the situation of Reading is exceptional in many respects. Though not by the sea-side or along some great river to afford easy access thereto by navigation, yet the facilities for trading and communicating with all parts of the country are great enough to give it distinction. When the town was laid out, its location was controlled by the ford across the Schuylkill to which public roads had already converged and from which additional roads were likely to diverge. Subsequently railroads were projected in the direction of these public roads, and from that time the growth of its population and industrial activity became more and more won-

derful. Now, after the lapse of one hundred and fifty years, we find here all the advantages and improvements that constitute a thriving community. These advantages will be briefly stated in order to give the reader a just conception of Reading's present greatness as a centre of production, trade, wealth and population, and by comparing them with the general situation of affairs in 1847, a marked improvement in every respect will be made apparent.

The drainage is superior by the natural trend of the surface from the mountains to the river. This was sufficient as long as the population was well distributed and the industrial establishments, stores and hotels were of an ordinary size; but after the population had begun to be compact, and the business places of various kinds extensive, an improved system of sewers for streets and buildings became necessary. A system was accordingly adopted, and the public expenditure in that behalf exceeds half a million dollars.

The streets have been macadamized throughout the major part of the city, covering an area of three miles long by two miles wide; and a substantial start has been made in putting down sheet asphaltum on Penn and South Fifth streets, measuring about two miles in length, with encouraging prospects for extending this improvement from the central portions of the city towards its limits.

The dwellings number more than 14,000, and nearly nine-tenths of them are constructed of brick. They are substantial in appearance and comfortable in arrangement, with small lots of ground appurtenant, the prices ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,500. Many beautiful residences have been erected in different sections of Reading costing from \$5,000 to \$75,000.

The population in the sixteen wards has been ascertained to be 73,000, over five times the number when the city was erected fifty years ago. A considerable proportion of the natural increase of the place, brought here through improving industrial conditions and entirely dependent upon them, has found a pleasant lodgment in the surrounding suburban towns within three miles from the post office building; but these localities should be justly taken as a part of Reading, and being added we should have at least 85,000, or over six times the number

here in 1847. The buildings in the suburban places are almost entirely brick and compare with those at Reading. The average number of inhabitants to a dwelling in the entire community is less than five. In this respect Reading compares favorably with the most progressive cities in the United States.

The supply of water is superior in character and abundant in quantity. There are five sources with a daily flow of 15,000,000 gallons, and a total storage capacity of 181,532,000 gallons, established at a total cost of \$1,746,953. Rent charges are as moderate as any in the United States. For dwellings and stores, there is a schedule of prices; and for manufacturing establishments and saloons the consumption is measured by meters at low rates. The management of the water department is highly creditable.

Dwellings are lighted mostly by gas, and the stores, public buildings, and streets by electricity. Many shops and factories are supplied with power by an electric company; and a large plant has been established for supplying steam heat to dwellings and public buildings, large mains having been put down along certain streets in the interior portion of the city, measuring about two miles.

The department of public works was established several years ago and though of recent origin it has shown itself a valuable aid to improved local government in the matter of expenditures for streets and sewers.

Police protection extends throughout the city. The department comprises fifty-seven officers. The patrol system is complete, and the remotest stations, as well as the nearest, (numbering twenty-seven,) are in direct communication with City Hall, and in constant readiness for dispatching the arrest of transgressors.

The public market houses on Penn square were abandoned and removed in 1871. Since then, seven private market houses have been established in different parts of the city, affording unusual facilities to the inhabitants for purchasing produce twice and thrice a week; and some of the shops are gradually developing into small market houses for supplying daily all kinds of meat, produce, etc.

The fire department is voluntary in character but very efficient. It comprises twelve companies with 1,600 active and 4,600 contributing members, and they respond to alarms in a prompt manner. The annual appropriations by the city amount to \$30,000. The alarms during 1897 numbered eighty-one, and the total losses amounted to \$139,324. A superior fire alarm system has been in successful operation since 1873, and there are now sixty-two alarm boxes in use, distributed in seven circuits. The department can be said to afford the community protection against fire equal to any given elsewhere in the United States. Until recently, the alarm boxes were locked and keys for each box were deposited at several places near by for use when necessary, to guard against false alarms; now the lever is exposed at the boxes, (beyond the reach of children,) and ready for any one to give the alarm without delay in case of fire. Occasionally, some alarms are not warranted, but they are not given maliciously to deceive the department.

The health department is well conducted. Its annual reports indicate a superior sanitary condition of Reading and a very low death rate in proportion to population. A crematory was erected recently beyond the southern limits of Reading to dispose of the garbage by public service, and the first annual contract was awarded to remove it two and three times a week according to the season.

The assessed value of property at Reading for purposes of taxation exceeds \$42,000,000. The tax rates are low, being 6 mills for city purposes; 4 mills for school; and 2½ mills for county. The annual appropriations for city affairs amount to \$433,547; and for school affairs, \$219,453. The total expenditures by the city for the last fiscal year, from April, 1897 to April, 1898, were \$604,509; of which the three largest items were for police, \$107,456, for highways, \$140,000, for sewers, \$192,520. But the assessment of property for purposes of taxation does not represent the real value. The expenditures required to establish all the buildings, improvements, factories and plants of every kind have an aggregate value of at least \$75,000,000.

The school buildings number 41, and are valued at \$737,400. The system comprises 244 schools, 263 teachers and over 11,000 scholars.

There are 17 religious denominations which have over 60 churches, some of them large and costly structures, and their total valuation amounts to \$1,542,100.

The stores number nearly 1,000, of which over 600 are licensed; industrial establishments, 500; and small shops of all kinds 400. Some of the stores are very large, including many departments, and employing from 35 to 350 salespeople and clerks. The expenses of several of them exceed the total amount of business done by all the stores at Reading thirty years ago. This contrast shows their extraordinary growth and importance in the affairs of Reading. The manufactured productions in 1847 were limited in kind, quantity and value with a local consumption excepting hats, iron and brick; now they are numerous in kinds and very large in quantity and value, with a distribution into all civilized parts of the world; and the largest establishment now employs as many hands as all of them taken together then, including shops and stores of every kind.

The postal facilities are superior in every particular. There are three general deliveries of letters to all parts of Reading, and three collections from 182 boxes; and five deliveries and seven collections, which cover the greater part of the city for business purposes. The carriers number thirty-five. The post office building is a superb structure, costing \$180,000. The money order department handled \$563,859 from April, 1897, to April, 1898; and the postal department, \$91,020. Since 1894, the annual increase in the former has been nearly \$40,000; and in the latter nearly \$10,000.

For communicating with distant places, there are two telegraph lines and one telephone line; and for delivering packages, two express companies. A local transfer system has been established, which is capable of meeting all possible demands for passengers and baggage, and many persons have engaged in the local express business for hauling freight and merchandise.

Eight banks, two trust companies, two insurance companies and many building and savings associations comprise the financial institutions of Reading. The banks have an aggregate capital of \$1,675,020; surplus, \$1,853,369; and deposits, \$4,887,977. The trust companies are superior institutions, with the unqualified confidence of the people, and trust funds under their management amount to nearly \$1,000,000.

The steam railroad facilities are exceptional. Lines extend in five directions, and numerous trains are operated daily, the passenger trains numbering nearly 100, and the freight trains over 100. Trains are run without change of cars to Pottsville, Sunbury and Williamsport; to Slatington; to Allentown; to Harrisburg; to Lancaster and Columbia; to Wilmington; and to Philadelphia. The several lines are the Philadelphia and Reading; Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley; Lebanon Valley; East Penn; Schuylkill and Lehigh; and Wilmington and Northern. There is a complete system of street railways which enables passengers to be carried from one end of the city to the other for a single fare of five cents, or thirty rides for \$1.00. Lines also extend west to Womelsdorf 14 miles; southwest to Mohnsville and Adamstown, 14 miles; and south-east to Black Bear Inn and Stony Creek Mills, 4 miles, with encouraging prospects of continuing the last named line to Boyertown, 16 miles. And mountain railways have been constructed around and upon Mt. Penn and Mt. Neversink which afford great facilities to the inhabitants and to visitors for recreation and amusement, and also for extended views over a picturesque country more than thirty miles square. Nine resorts are situated along both lines, which are largely patronized from June to October.

Suburban towns adjoin Reading in every direction, and all of them are conveniently reached by street cars, excepting to the north. They are gradually preparing the way for "Greater Reading," which, within the next decade, will cover an area of territory embracing twenty square miles, and containing a population about 115,000. The conditions are here to warrant this assertion. The people generally are coming to understand more and more the important elements that constitute a prosperous community and are directing their efforts accordingly.

Two attractive parks have been established at public expense exceeding \$130,000, and they are delightful places for rest and recreation to many thousands of people. A fine park two miles east of the city is operated by the street railway company, being an attractive spot where amusements of a superior class are provided during the summer months. Three theatres are carried on during nine months of the year, which are well patronized; and more than thirty large halls have been established in

the several sections of the city to accommodate meetings of all kinds, more particularly for secret societies.

The environments of Reading are not surpassed anywhere for general picturesqueness of extended views over rolling hills, flowing streams and fertile valleys. They have induced the construction of two railways on the mountains to the east and south, and the erection of many substantial resorts together representing an invested capital of nearly a million dollars. The Schuylkill valley extends from the South mountains to the Blue mountains, visible for thirty miles, and the Lebanon (or Tulpehocken) valley visible from the river westward for twenty miles. More than thirty towns have been built up in this area of territory, and all have constant business intercourse with Reading.

The licensed places for the sale of liquor number 174. Some of them are saloons, but most of them hotels. Four large hotels are situated on Penn Square equipped with modern improvements, which have a capacity for accommodating 600 to 800 guests in the business centre of the place. The total capacity of all the hotels and lodging houses is estimated at 5,000, evidencing the fact that Reading can comfortably entertain large conventions, celebrations and excursion parties.

Twenty newspapers are published at Reading, two morning daily and four evening daily, (one of them German); and fourteen weeklies, (six of them German); and there are seven other periodicals, both English and German, religious and secular, which have a very wide circulation, extending into all parts of the United States.

The musical character of the people is of a superior order. The societies for producing instrumental and vocal music are numerous, and several of each class have a wide reputation.

The secret society has come to be the greatest social feature at Reading, exceeding in total male membership even that of the churches. In 1847 there were only two orders, the Masonic and Odd Fellows, with a limited membership; now they are numerous, embracing all kinds, and the membership of each runs from several hundred to several thousand. The associations for literary, musical, professional, political, religious and social purposes are also numerous, and they exert a powerful influence over the feelings and actions of the people.

MISCELLANEOUS EMPLOYMENTS.

The following list is presented to show the number and character of the several employments at Reading in April, 1898:

Architects	7	Furrier	1
Artists	8	Gents' Furnishing, etc.	22
Attorneys-at Law	100	Grain Shippers	4
Auctioneers	5	Grocers, retail	297
Barbers	114	Grocers, wholesale	3
Bell Hangers	4	Gunsmiths	2
Bill Posters	2	Hardware	13
Blacksmiths	32	Hat Block Makers	2
Bleaching Straw Goods	1	Hair Workers, (Human)	4
Boarding Houses	62	Hides	4
Book-sellers, etc.	9	Hotels and Saloons	174
Brokers	5	Ice Dealers	15
Bricklayers	100	Installment Houses	7
Building Contractors	10	Insurance, Fire	22
Butchers	83	Insurance, Life	15
Caterers	3	Jewelers	25
Carpet Dealers	7	Layers out of dead	10
Carpet Cleaners	2	Leather	4
Chair Caners	2	Liquors	15
Chair Makers	2	Live Stock	3
Chinaware, etc.	3	Locksmith	1
Cigars and Tobacco	66	Lumber	13
Civil Engineers	5	Marble Yards	8
Coal, Wood, etc.	61	Mercantile Agencies	2
Coffee Roasting	4	Milk Dealers	18
Commission Agents	4	Milliners	20
Confectionery	59	Millwrights	2
Contractors	6	Newspapers, &c	27
Coopers	3	Newspaper Dealers	2
Dentists	30	Notaries	31
Detectives	3	Notions—wholesale	1
Dressmakers	222	Opticians	10
Druggists	34	Painters, &c	34
Dry Goods, etc.	71	Patent Solicitors	2
Dyeing	4	Pattern Makers	2
Electricians	6	Pavers	4
Embalmers	2	Pension Attorneys	4
Employment Bureaus	2	Photographers	8
Engraving	2	Physicians	130
Flag Stones, etc.	12	Picture Frames, &c	2
Flour, Feed, etc.	45	Piano Tuners	5
Fruit, Fish, etc.	41	Plasterers	75
Furniture	15	Plumbing, &c	19

Pool Rooms	9	Teachers, School	265
Printers, Book and Job	27	Teachers, Music	60
Produce Dealers	7	Teachers, Dancing	5
Rags, Paper, &c	10	Tea and Coffee	4
Real Estate Agents	33	Telegraphers	48
Restaurants	46	Telephoners	15
Saddlery, &c	10	Theatres	3
Sewing Machines	4	Ticket Offices	6
Shoe Dealers	30	Tinsmiths	35
Shoemakers	143	Toilet Articles	1
Shoe Upper Manufacturers	1	Tool Sharpeners, &c	2
Slate Roofers	3	Toys	3
Stables, Livery, &c	22	Typewriters, &c	375
Stables, Sale	4	Undertakers	9
Stair-Builders	3	Upholsterers	9
Stamping	2	Veterinary Surgeons	5
Steam-Ship Agents	4	Wall Paper	16
Stock Dealers	4	Wax Workers, &c	4
Storage	3	Wheelwrights	7
Tailors and Clothiers	100		



CHAPTER III.—SESQUI-CENTENNIAL.

PART I.—ACTION OF BOARD OF TRADE.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trade, held on March 5, 1896, a letter was read, addressed by Frederick W. Lauer to Hon. Thomas P. Merritt, president of the Board, calling attention to the fact that Reading was incorporated as a City on March 16, 1847, that next year the Semi-Centennial Anniversary of this event would occur, and that the necessary steps should be taken by the Board for a proper celebration of the event. The letter was referred to the Committee on Municipal Affairs with a request to report at the next meeting.

At the regular meeting of the Board on July 2, 1896, James P. Sellers, Chairman of the Committee on Municipal Affairs, presented the following resolution which was unanimously adopted: "*Resolved*, That City Councils be requested to appoint a special committee of five members, two of Select and three of Common Council, to act in conjunction with the Committee on Municipal Affairs of this Board, to arrange for the proper observance of the Semi-Centennial of the incorporation of Reading as a City."

At the regular meeting on August 6, 1896, Howard L. Boas presented a report that he had caused to be read to City Councils the resolution relative to the celebration of Reading's Semi-Centennial and that in pursuance of the request, Howard L. Boas and Jacob B. Stout were appointed from Select Council, and Israel S. Fry and William Templin from Common Council, to meet the Committee on Municipal Affairs to carry out the purpose of the resolution.

The matter was mentioned at subsequent meetings of the Board and a banquet was proposed, in which the City Officials were to participate. Besides this, nothing special was done at the meetings for six months.

Sesqui-Centennial Celebration.—At the annual meeting on February 18, 1897, Mr. Sellers, Chairman of the Committee on Municipal Affairs, offered a resolution that the proposed banquet be abandoned, but that a more extensive celebration be held for the Sesqui-Centennial of Reading in 1898, which was adopted. Action on the subject was again taken by the Board on September 2, 1897, when Chairman Sellers presented a report in behalf of the Sesqui-Centennial, and, after considerable discussion, on motion of Samuel D. Dibert, a General Committee was appointed comprising the Committee from City Councils, Howard L. Boas, Jacob B. Stout, William Templin and Israel S. Fry, and the Committee on Municipal Affairs, James P. Sellers, Calvin K. Whitner, Amos K. Kline, W. Morris Deisher and F. J. Hunt, with the president of the Board, Hon. Thomas P. Merritt, and the secretary, Eugene P. Stofer, as members *ex-officio*.

PART II—PROCEEDINGS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Pursuant to a general notice published in the newspapers, the first meeting of the General Committee was held in the rooms of the Board of Trade on September 9, 1897, and then J. George Hintz and J. K. Righter were also in attendance. After considerable discussion of the proposed celebration, the Committee was authorized to make additions and substitutions, should any person be not inclined to serve, as may be regarded expedient for the success of the celebration. And it was then determined that the Committee should hold weekly meetings for the purpose of perfecting the necessary arrangements.

At the meeting on September 16th, Chairman Sellers added the names of J. George Hintz, John D. Mishler, and Samuel D. Dibert to the General Committee. The views of the several members on the proposed celebration were expressed, and Mr. Mishler submitted a program of festivities for an entire week, beginning June 5, 1898. This program was laid over and discussed at different times until November 5, 1897, when it was adopted. On September 30, 1897, the Chairman was authorized to enlarge the General Committee as it became necessary.

On October 15, 1897, the General Committee was named the Executive Committee, and the following permanent officers

were elected: James P. Sellers, president; Thomas P. Merritt, treasurer; and Eugene P. Stofer, secretary. And on November 12th, the chairmen of the respective committees were announced by the President.

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Statistics of the Board of Trade, Morton L. Montgomery, Esq., was authorized to compile a History of Reading, which was to include the proceedings relating to the Sesqui-Centennial.

The Executive Committee held weekly meetings, and the several committees met frequently to make the necessary arrangements in their respective departments for a proper observance of the Sesqui-Centennial. The headquarters were established in the rooms of the Board of Trade, which were in the Wanner Building at Court and Reed streets from April 1, 1897 to March 31, 1898, and then in the Jacobs Building, No. 25 North Sixth street.

The names of the members of the Executive Committee and its officers, and also of the several committees and their respective officers, regularly appointed, were as follows:—

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

James P. Sellers, President.

Howard L. Boas, Vice President. Thos. P. Merritt, Treasurer.

Eugene P. Stofer, Secretary.

Oscar B. Wetherhold (Accommodations.)

Charles G. Willson (Bicycle Parade.)

Harry L. Hoffman (Carriages.)

Wellington G. Woods (Cavalcade and Corso.)

Hon. Jacob Weidel (City Officials.)

Harvey J. Fueller (Civic Demonstration.)

Milton H. Schnader (Colors.)

Joshua K. Righter (Courtesy.)

Amos K. Kline (Decorations.)

Philip Bissinger (Electric.)

John D. Mishler (Finance.)

John E. Spears (Firemen.)

William H. Luden (Fireworks.)

John B. Raser (Former Residents.)

Calvin K. Whitner (History.)

Jenkin Hill (Illumination.)

John E. Harbster (Industrial.)
 C. Raymond Heizmann (Insignia.)
 George F. Baer (Invitation.)
 Israel Cleaver (Medical.)
 Samuel Willits (Military.)
 Thomas P. Merritt (Music.)
 John R. Mast (Official Program.)
 J. George Hintz (Patriotic Demonstration.)
 Jerome L. Boyer (Pioneers.)
 W. Morris Deisher (Printing.)
 Howard L. Boas (Program of Jubilee Week.)
 Jacob B. Stout (Publicity.)
 Samuel D. Dibert (Railroads; also Design of Envelope.)
 David McM. Gregg (Reception.)
 M. Brayton McKnight (Regatta.)
 Ebenezer Mackey (School Parade.)
 Charles H. Armour (Signal Corps.)
 Louis Heilbron (Water.)
 Henry M. Keim (Woman's.)
 Morton L. Montgomery (Historian.)
 Israel S. Fry, Harvey F. Heinley, Charles E. Leippe,
 Jeremiah G. Mohn, William Templin.

COMMITTEES.

Accommodations.—O. B. Wetherhold, Chairman; E. Marsh Brasefield, vice chairman; S. M. Helms, secretary and treasurer; Wm. H. Kessler, J. H. Passmore, James H. Renninger.

Bicycle Parade.—Charles G. Willson, Chairman; Geo. Eckert, vice chairman; Glenson J. Althouse, secretary; Weston W. Wesley, treasurer; John M. Archer, Peter H. Krick, Daniel Y. Klapp, C. C. Ludwig, Joseph Martin, John Neubling, George A. Sands, Henry F. Seiders.

Carriages.—Harry L. Hoffman, Chairman; J. George Hintz, vice chairman; Geo. W. Romig, secretary; Charles E. Leippe, treasurer; Charles H. Armour, Harvey J. Fueller.

Cavalcade and Corso.—Wellington G. Woods, Chairman; David P. Schlott, vice chairman; Wm. D. Butler, secretary and treasurer; Edward A. Auerbach, John M. Archer, John Barbey, Morris R. Boyer, Harry C. Boyer, George M. Britton, Walter F. Bush, Henry A. Brown, J. H. Cheetham, D. Wellington Dietrich, Isaac Eckert, Wm. B. Eckert, Charles J. Hoff, Harry S. High, A. H. Kretz, George J. Kessler, George M. Krick, W. Storm Miller, R. D. Millholland, W. Harry Orr, J. Ashton Parker, C. E. Schrader, Wm. J. Schitler, P. R. Stetson, William Templin.

City Officials.—Mayor Jacob Weidel, Chairman; S. E. Cummings and Jacob B. Stout, vice chairmen; E. L. Lindemuth, secretary and treasurer; John M. Archer, John H. Bach, J. M. Becker, Daniel Beidler, Wm. Bitting, H. L. Boas, Amos H. Beard, John H. Close, Geo. B. Clouser, K. H. Cleaver, A. B. Dundor, Aaron S. Donkle, Ed. C. Eben, Jacob Etzel, George H. Felix, Howard N. Goodman, Isaac W. Hull, R. B. Harris, S. S. Hoff, J. Y. Hoffman, H. H. Hammer, James Hangen, Fred P. Heller, Matthan Harbster, H. L. Johnson, P. Monroe Krick, S. L. Kurtz, Richard L. Lawrence, Adam H. Leader, Wm. R. Madden, John H. Mast, Wm. F. Marcks, Robert D. Millholland, James Morgan, Thomas P. Merritt, John Ashton Parker, Matthew Rhoda, John A. Rauen, Geo. W. Romig, Abraham F. Reeser, Wm. J. Rourke, Jacob B. Stout, George W. Shaffer, Charles H. Schaeffer, Wm. Templin, Frank A. Tyson, Harry J. Wentzel, W. W. Wunder, Wm. Abbott Witman, Joseph Witman, Rufus W. Wolfskill, James P. Yorgey.

The following sub-committees of City Officials were appointed:

Badges:—Isaac W. Hull, P. Monroe Krick, William H. Bitting.

Carriages:—Geo. W. Romig, Robert B. Harris, Wm. R. Madden, James M. Morgan.

Electric Lighting and Review Stand:—James P. Yorgey, George W. Romig, Jacob B. Stout, S. E. Cummings, Isaac W. Hull.

Entertainment and Program:—Harry J. Wentzel, Matthew Rhoda, James M. Morgan, James P. Yorgey, S. E. Cummings, Geo. W. Shaffer, John H. Mast, R. W. Wolfskill, Jacob B. Stout, George W. Romig, R. L. Lawrence, John H. Bach, John H. Close, John M. Archer, Edward C. Eben, Wm. W. Wunder.

Invitation:—Hon. Jacob Weidel, Jacob B. Stout, Samuel E. Cummings.

Reception:—George B. Clouser, Howard L. Boas, John A. Rauen, K. H. Cleaver, R. D. Millholland, William Templin, Robert B. Harris, H. L. Johnson, Joseph Witman, Amos H. Beard, J. Ashton Parker, Wm. Abbott Witman.

Civic Demonstration.—Harvey J. Fueller, Chairman; Howard L. Boas, vice chairman; Elmer A. German, secretary and treasurer; H. R. Anthony, Jerome L. Boyer, C. J. Bonawitz, H. J. Borkert, R. H. Bortle, L. Eddie Bower, S. A. Bechtel, M. A. DeTurck, John De Young, Henry Etheridge, W. G. Edwards, Reuben S. Heckman, J. George Hintz, John J. Kelly, Stanley L. Krebs, John R. Laucks, E. A. C. Lohman, Herman Hermann, I. G. Miller, Frank Menges, E. Ed. Mellert, Ellis B. Moyer, H. J. Pflum, James S. Roland, W. H. Still, Jonas A. Schwoyer, Jerome Seiders, Samuel Willits, John Weiler, S. J. Weiler, F. M. Yeager.

Colors.—M. H. Schnader, Chairman; H. M. M. Richards, vice chairman; W. Morris Deisher, secretary; C. Raymond Heizmann, treasurer; Harry W. Crooks, Charles E. Leippe, Wm. Y. Schmucker.

Courtesy.—J. K. Righter, Chairman; Wm. D. Smith, vice chairman; A. K. Stauffer, secretary; Robert P. Shick, treasurer; Geo. M. Ammon, Geo. W. Ammon, G. W. Alexander, Louis Adler, Geo. Bard, W. Howard Bright, A. J. Brumbach, C. S. Birch, Jacob Barbey, John L. Bowman,

John F. Boyer, James S. Brusstar, Lemon Buch, Charles Breneiser, Sr., Louis Battenfelt, Geo. W. Beard, John E. Bubp, F. X. Blessing, Howard F. Boyer, W. C. Billman, August Bendel, John H. Bach, Amos H. Beard, Thomas D. Bausher, W. N. Coleman, Harry Christensen, W. F. Curtis, Albert S. Cohn, Edward Carroll, Daniel W. Crouse, Geo. B. Clouser, S. E. Cummings, John Close, Joshua Dives, Harry S. Dibert, G. H. Delp, C. M. Deem, W. P. Deppen, Thos. K. Dalzell, Wilson M. Dumn, Henry J. Dumn, Wm. Dibert, Nevin M. Davis, C. A. Dougherty, Henry Eppihimer, James P. Esterly, Charles M. Evans, Charles W. Edwards, D. S. Esterly, Harry W. Eisenbrown, Philip M. Ermentrout, Jacob Etzel, L. H. Focht, Aug. S. Flicker, E. W. Fox, Albert J. Fisher, J. H. Fett, Nathaniel Ferguson, A. W. Fisher, J. S. Fritz, Jacob B. Fricker, Moses K. Graeff, Christian Ganster, Edmund Goldman, John Gaenzle, H. K. Gittleman, John O. Glase, James K. Getz, Charles C. Goodman, H. C. Geissler, Edwin R. Gerber, George K. Grim, A. M. High, Charles K. Hillegass, A. W. Hoff, Jesse G. Hawley, Harry H. Hillegass, C. L. Hoff, C. W. Hendel, G. S. Herbein, F. W. Hanold, Arthur W. Heim, W. H. Hinnershitz, H. A. Hoff, F. B. Hay, H. C. Heller, Samuel Hantsch, Hiram L. Henninger, William M. Hiester, Fred. P. Heller, Henry B. Hintz, Albert R. Hoover, Peter S. Holl, Isaac W. Hull, Charles H. Hunter, John C. Illig, Richmond L. Jones, S. B. Jacobs, R. H. Jones, E. W. James, H. L. Johnson, Louis Kraemer, Jacob S. Kline, H. D. Kurtz, E. C. Kern, James A. Klees, A. N. Kissinger, W. B. Krick, John J. Kutz, Geo. L. Kestner, F. Keffer, Daniel Y. Klapp, J. O. Koller, George Kemp, DeB. Randolph Keim, Frank P. Lauer, George A. Leinbach, C. H. Leinbach, Joseph A. Leinbach, Geo. W. Liess, E. S. Lichtenthaeler, C. H. Lichty, W. K. Leitheiser, B. Y. Landis, George F. Lance, Ellsworth Leinbach, Wesley K. Loose, F. W. Lauer, William H. Livingood, William Medlar, E. M. Morgan, George W. Mayers, Richard G. Mohn, William McCormick, John D. Missimer, John G. Mohn, Ralph H. Mengel, William R. McIlvain, William S. Mohr, William H. Moyer, T. P. Moore, J. Fred. Mayer, Charles Maerz, George R. Maltzberger, J. Harry Moyer, Morris H. Milmore, Daniel Miller, J. H. Maltzberger, John R. Mast, Calvin D. Moser, John G. Niethammer, William Nolan, W. Harry Orr, James A. O'Reilly, Hugh O'Donnell, H. L. O'Brien, George S. Pomeroy, A. Tyson Phillippi, G. D. Packer, Allen C. Paine, Charles W. Potteiger, John H. Printz, Levi Quier, Charles Rick, James Rick, John Rick, James T. Reber, James C. Reber, John W. Rauch, John H. Rothermel, John A. Rigg, Milford N. Ritter, Walter G. Roland, C. H. Ruhl, William J. Rourke, B. F. Ruth, Charles Rentschler, Jr., Matthew Rhoda, George W. Romig, Lambert A. Rehr, William Rosenthal, E. D. Smith, C. F. Steinmetz, Aaron B. Stein, J. S. Shade, W. Kerper Stevens, John C. Stocker, Frank C. Smink, Clarence Sembower, Sigmund S. Schweriner, Harvey H. Shomo, John G. Spatz, Fred A. Schmucker, Jacob H. Stein, E. B. Strohecker, Wm. Sterrett, Benjamin Saylor, E. H. Shearer, William F. Shanaman, John D. Strunk, Francis F. Seidel, Charles A. Sheidy, Mahlon Shaaber, John B. Shultz,

Henry Schofer, Edward Scull, M. C. Sigmund, P. R. Stetson, D. E. Schroeder, R. H. Savage, Horatio Trexler, Jacob Truby, A. Thalheimer, George E. Tyson, Wellington Van Reed, George A. Wanner, Manoah S. Weiler, Ferdinand Winter, E. S. Wertz, Fred H. Witman, Frederick Weilandt, F. W. Woolworth, George W. Wolf, John Weiler, Wellington G. Woods. Horace A. Yundt, William H. Yocum, W. C. Yoder, Henry S. Yocum, Walter S. Young, H. W. Zimmerman.

Decorations.—Amcs K. Kline, Chairman; Henry M. Keim, vice chairman; Thomas B. Illig, treasurer; Aaron K. Kline, secretary; Jerome I. Kline, Frank M. Rieser, Alexander F. Smith.

Design of Envelope.—Samuel D. Dibert, Chairman; W. Morris Deisher, Howard L. Boas.

Electrical Display.—Philip Bissinger, Chairman; J. Lew Rake, secretary and treasurer; Arthur Arrowsmith, J. Douglass Hipple, C. C. Long.

Finance—John D. Mishler, Chairman; Milton H. Schnader, vice chairman; Henry W. Snyder, secretary; Thomas P. Merritt, treasurer; George M. Britton, Samuel D. Dibert, Israel S. Fry, C. Raymond Heizmann, Charles S. Prizer, William F. Remppis, C. K. Whitner, James W. Yocum.

Firemen's Parade.—John E. Spears, Chairman; W. W. Wunder, vice chairman, (Keystone); John S. Weber, secretary, (Riverside); S. E. Ancona, treasurer, (Hampden); T. D. Bausher, (Friendship); F. C. Clemson, (Neversink); E. C. Eben, (Junior); Edward Elbert, (Washington); Aug. Gring, (Marion); Harry Heath, (Schuylkill); William Leitheiser, (Rainbow); William Meyer, (Liberty); George C. Obold, (Reading).

Fireworks.—Wm. H. Luden, Chairman; Charles E. Leippe, first vice chairman; Daniel F. Ancona, second vice chairman; W. W. Light, secretary; James W. Yocum, treasurer.

Former Residents.—John B. Raser, Chairman; Walter S. Davis, vice chairman; W. W. Light, secretary; Henry M. Keim, treasurer; Harry J. Hayden, William McIlvain, William H. Livingood, Charles Rick, C. A. Weida, W. Frazier Wootten.

Club of New York:—William Weis, Chairman; Samuel S. Mosser, secretary; T. T. Eckert, Jr., treasurer; William F. Ganster, William H. Heilig, Charles L. Raser, Wm. H. Raser, Charles R. Saul, Jos. P. Kuhn.

Club of Philadelphia:—S. S. Raser, Chairman; F. Marvin Yager, secretary; G. Prentice Raser, treasurer; J. Y. Heckman, Daniel Hertzog, William McKissick, Alexander N. Stewart.

Club of Pittsburg:—J. W. Jackson, Chairman; John B. Dampman, secretary.

Club of Lebanon:—Lucien E. Weimer, Chairman.

History of Reading—C. K. Whitner, Chairman; J. George Hintz, vice chairman; W. S. S. Coleman, secretary; D. F. Dietrich, treasurer; Morton L. Montgomery, historian; Cyrus T. Fox, John D. Mishler, Thomas P. Merritt, James P. Sellers.

Illumination.—Jenkin Hill, Chairman; T. M. Keppelman, secretary; C. H. Leinbach, treasurer; A. W. Arrowsmith, R. J. Calm, W. D. Fichthorn

Industrial Parade.—John E. Harbster, Chairman; James R. Kenney, vice chairman; Robert P. Shick, secretary; E. W. Alexander, treasurer; George W. Beard, Jacob F. Custer, A. A. Gery, Isaac Hamilton, William Hutchison, Matthan Harbster, P. S. Klees, John G. Mohn, John R. Miller, William H. Mohn, Charles S. Prizer, Levi Quier, George W. Raudenbush, H. M. Sternbergh, William H. Schick, John W. Smith, A. Thalheimer, Isaac Treat, Harry C. Weber, Henry Zabel.

Insignia.—C. Raymond Heizmann, Chairman; G. A. Schlechter, vice chairman; Irwin S. Ermentrout, secretary; J. K. Righter, treasurer; R. H. Bortle, Harry C. Weber

Invitation.—George F. Baer, Chairman; David McM. Gregg, secretary and treasurer; Hon. James N. Ermentrout, Hon. G. A. Endlich, S. E. Ancona, Isaac Hiester, Henry M. Muhlenberg, William D. Smith.

Medical.—Israel Cleaver, Chairman; William F. Marcks, vice chairman; J. W. Keiser, secretary and treasurer; D. B. D. Beaver, Henry Landis, Howard S. Reeser, H. F. Schantz, J. K. Seaman.

Music.—Thomas P. Merritt, Chairman; Theodore I. Heizmann, vice chairman; Walter A. Chafey, secretary and treasurer; E. A. Berg, chorus conductor; Walter A. Boas, William Benbow, W. J. Baltzell, W. S. Davis, H. E. Fahrback, M. H. Keller, Walter Heaton, J. G. McGowan, Stanley L. Krebs, Willoughby S. Wilde, F. S. Livingood, T. C. Zimmerman.

Official Program.—John R. Mast, Chairman; Harvey F. Heinly, vice chairman; Kurtz A. Fichthorn, secretary; G. A. Schlechter, treasurer; D. K. Hoch, George T. Wink.

Patriotic Demonstration.—J. George Hintz, Chairman; Jenkin Hill, vice chairman; Harvey J. Fueller, secretary; John R. Mast, treasurer; John H. Bach, Howard L. Boas, John H. Close, Samuel D. Dibert, Kurtz A. Fichthorn, George H. Felix, John E. Harbster, Harry L. Hoffman, D. K. Hoch, S. S. Hoff, Otto Hertwig, James M. Hutchison, B. F. Hunsicker, Harry G. Johnson, Henry M. Keim, George W. Keim, Wm. H. Luden, Harry A. Leinbach, Thomas P. Merritt, W. S. Miller, Emil Neubling, William A. Ribble, Jr., Geo. W. Romig, I. Rambo, Jr., Frank A. Tyson, Samuel Willits, Wm. Abbott Witman, O. B. Wetherhold.

Pioneers.—Jerome L. Boyer, Chairman; John R. Miller, vice chairman; John H. Keppelman, secretary; Jeremiah G. Mohn, treasurer; John C. Arthur, Elijah Auman, Charles S. Bachman, Adam Bard, D. Llewellyn Beaver, Charles S. Birch, Franklin G. Boas, William Call, Matthias Gondert, Horace Griscom, Wayne Hartenstine, Benneville Hemmig, John H. Hemmig, John Hendel, Charles Henninger, Henry D. High, Jacob S. Hillegass, Horatio Jones, Conrad Kaltenbach, Henry M. Keim, Henry Koch, Isaac McHose, George Muth, William H. Norton, Edward D. Smith, William M. Stauffer, J. Hervey Sternbergh, Horatio Trexler.

Printing—W. Morris Deisher, Chairman; Jonathan G. Leinbach, vice chairman; Charles E. Leippe, secretary and treasurer; John H. Keppelman, C. K. Whitner.

Program of Jubilee Week.—Howard L. Boas, Chairman; Philip Bissinger, vice chairman; Harvey J. Fueller, John D. Mishler, William Templin.

Publicity.—Jacob B. Stout, Chairman; Isaac W. Hull, vice chairman; E. L. Lindemuth, secretary; Howard N. Goodman, treasurer; George B. Clouser, John Weiler.

Railroads and Transportation—Samuel D. Dibert, Chairman; Charles H. Armour, secretary; J. Harry Leippe, treasurer; Edgar W. Alexander, John H. Bach, Albert Broden, David B. Courtney, George B. Connard, John H. Close, Abner S. Deysher, Hayes Dickinson, Fred A. Dickinson, Hiram K. Getz, Joseph P. Griest, C. Raymond Heizmann, Fredric P. Heller, Harry S. High, G. Howard Hart, William B. Harper, Lewis Horton, Jr., G. Nicholas Jacobi, Harry G. Johnson, James A. Klees, L. F. Kraemer, R. B. Kinsey, John Keppelman, Irvin J. Lerch, Frank P. Lauer, J. H. Leonard, Charles L. Lyon, Morris H. Milmore, Benjamin F. Miller, Matthias Moyer, J. Allison Orr, Charles S. Prizer, John H. Passmore, H. M. M. Richards, John A. Rigg, George M. Supplee, Frank C. Smink, Alfred G. Weile, Casper J. Wickersham, John C. Wobensmith.

Reception—David McM. Gregg, Chairman; Hon. H. Willis Bland, vice chairman; Louis Richards, secretary and treasurer; Elijah Bull, John Barbey, Edwin Boone, George F. Baer, J. H. Cheetham, Cyrus G. Derr, Josiah Dives, George B. Eckert, Ferdinand Goetz, Matthan Harbster, Theodore I. Heizmann, F. S. Jacobs, Fred S. Jones, Henry M. Keim, Jonathan G. Leinbach, A. Howard Merritt, John R. Miller, Jonathan Mould, James Nolan, J. Lancaster Repplier, J. Hervey Sternbergh, Charles H. Schaeffer, Hon. Jacob Weidel.

Regatta—M. Brayton McKnight, Chairman; Douglas W. Anderson, vice chairman; William C. Hinkley, secretary and treasurer; Harry B. Steffe, C. Fred Fichthorn, James S. Roland.

School Parade.—Ebenezer Mackey, Chairman; Rev. George Bornemann, vice chairman; R. A. Townsend, secretary; Miss Mary H. Mayer, treasurer; A. Bartels, James Kase, M. E. Scheibner, Frederick Stephan, J. Ed. Wanner, George W. Wagner.

Signal Corps—Charles H. Armour, Chairman; James C. Johnson, secretary; J. K. Righter, treasurer; John E. Spears, J. F. Albrecht.

Water.—Louis Heilbron, Chairman; George F. Felix, John Nuebling, Henry H. Roland.

Woman's Committee.—Henry M. Keim, Chairman; Mrs. Daniel Ermentrout, chief director; Mrs. William R. McIlvain, vice director; Mrs. John B. Dampman, secretary; Mrs. John D. Mishler, treasurer

The following sub-committees were appointed:

Accommodations:—Mrs. J. Wilhelm Hartmann, Chairwoman; Mrs. Henry Bushong, Mrs. Samuel D. Dibert, Mrs. Fanny Ferguson, Mrs. William Kauffman, Mrs. George M. Krick, Mrs. J. Mould, Mrs. A. T. Phillippi, Mrs. Levi Quier, Mrs. J. K. Righter, Mrs. John Rick, Mrs. Minerva E. Richards, Mrs. H. C. G. Reber, Mrs. J. W. Richards, Mrs. Matthew Rhoda, Mrs. Jefferson Snyder, Mrs. James P. Sellers, Mrs. G. B. Stevens, Mrs. D. N. Schaeffer, Mrs. C. H. Schaeffer, Mrs. John E. Spears, Mrs. Jacob B. Stout, Mrs. H. Strecker, Mrs. A. Thalheimer, Mrs. J. H. Thamm, Mrs. F. A. Tyson, Mrs. Wm. Abbott Witman, Mrs. Samuel Willits, Mrs. C. K. Whitner, Mrs. J. S. Wagner, Mrs. P. D. Wanner.

Carriages:—Mrs. James Rick, Chairwoman; Mrs. W. A. Arnold, Mrs. John Barbey, Mrs. George F. Baer, Mrs. George M. Britton, Mrs. Philip Bissinger, Mrs. J. H. Craig, Mrs. Thomas Dalzell, Mrs. Josiah Dives, Mrs. George B. Eckert, Mrs. Isaac Eckert, Mrs. Matthan Harbster, Mrs. H. A. Hoff, Mrs. Charles Hoff, Mrs. J. H. Jacobs, Mrs. Jos. P. Kremp, Mrs. Amos K. Kline, Mrs. Wm. H. Luden, Mrs. Jeremiah G. Mohn, Mrs. J. A. O'Reilly, Mrs. John A. Rigg, Mrs. J. T. Reber, Mrs. John B. Raser, Mrs. J. Hervey Sternbergh, Mrs. F. C. Smink, Mrs. A. Wilhelm, Mrs. Thomas Willson.

Decoration:—Mrs. John D. Mishler, Chairwoman; Mrs. Raphael Austrian, Mrs. Samuel Addison, Mrs. Edwin Boone, Mrs. Annie Campbell, Mrs. Israel Cleaver, Mrs. H. Connard, Mrs. J. L. Douglas, Mrs. P. Ermentrout, Mrs. George Eltz, Mrs. I. S. Fry, Mrs. Harvey J. Fueller, Mrs. George Grim, Mrs. Hiram K. Getz, Mrs. Howard N. Goodman, Mrs. E. E. Hafer, Mrs. Jacob Hoff, Mrs. Fredric P. Heller, Mrs. J. George Hintz, Mrs. Louis Heilbron, Mrs. Charles Jackson, Mrs. Henry Kauffman, Mrs. Aaron K. Kline, Mrs. Harry Koller, Mrs. Annetta Lerch, Mrs. J. G. Leinbach, Mrs. E. L. Lindemuth, Mrs. M. Mengel, Mrs. C. H. Ruhl, Mrs. J. H. Rothermel, Mrs. P. C. Sweeney, Mrs. D. H. Wingerd.

Invitation:—Mrs. Wm. R. McIlvain, Chairwoman; Mrs. J. B. Brooke, Mrs. Cyrus G. Derr, Mrs. G. A. Endlich, Mrs. A. G. Green, Mrs. W. M. Hiester, Mrs. A. A. Heizmann, Mrs. Horatio Jones, Mrs. Samuel Kerper, Mrs. J. R. Kaucher, Mrs. Jacob Knabb, Mrs. Morton L. Montgomery, Mrs. H. H. Muhlenberg, Mrs. Henry Millholland, Mrs. W. Heyward Myers, Mrs. William Medlar, Mrs. James McCarty, Mrs. John McLenegan, Mrs. G. A. Nicolls, Mrs. Horace Roland, Mrs. Simon Seyfert, Mrs. Angeline Stewart, Mrs. P. R. Stetson, Mrs. T. D. Stichter, Mrs. Horatio Trexler.

Music:—Mrs. H. E. P. Stewart, Chairwoman; Mrs. Jerome L. Boyer, Mrs. G. A. Boyer, Mrs. Henry S. Dibert, Mrs. J. P. Griest, Mrs. Ferdinand Goetz, Mrs. Jenkin Hill, Mrs. Felix Kremp, Mrs. W. H. Livingood, Mrs. Paul Millholland, Mrs. William Madden, Mrs. John R. Mast, Mrs. Harrison Maltzberger, Mrs. Matthias Moyer, Mrs. C. W. Potteiger, Mrs. John H. Printz, Mrs. Elhannan Schmucker, Mrs. G. A. Schlechter.

Program:—Mrs. John B. Dampman, Chairwoman; Mrs. D. F. Ancona, Mrs. Charles H. Armour, Mrs. George Bell, Mrs. Franklin G. Boas, Mrs. C. S. Birch, Mrs. S. F. Ebur, Mrs. Cyrus T. Fox, Mrs. George H. Felix, Mrs. E. R. Gerber, Mrs. Jesse G. Hawley, Mrs. Howard L. Hoff-

man, Mrs. S. S. Hoff, Mrs. George Haak, Mrs. J. C. A. Hoffeditz, Mrs. Fred. S. Jones, Mrs. R. H. Jones, Mrs. Harry G. Johnson, Mrs. Charles E. Leippe, Mrs. J. D. Missimer, Mrs. J. H. Maltzberger, Mrs. Ebenezer Mackey, Mrs. Mary Millholland, Mrs. B. F. Owen, Mrs. Wm. Rosenthal, Mrs. Adam B. Rieser, Mrs. Fred. Spang, Mrs. Morris H. Schaeffer, Mrs. M. E. Scheibner, Mrs. O. B. Wetherhold, Mrs. T. C. Zimmerman.

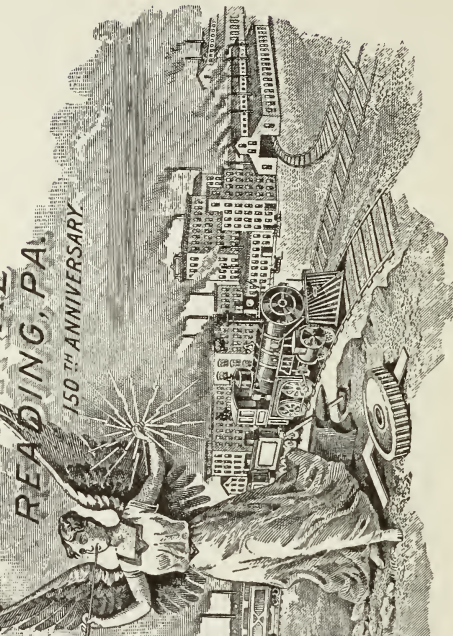
Reception:—Mrs. Daniel Ermentrout, Chairwoman; Mrs. S. E. Ancona, Mrs. D. B. D. Beaver, Mrs. G. B. Connard, Mrs. Wm. H. Clymer, Mrs. John B. Dampman, Mrs. J. De Puy Davis, Mrs. David McM. Gregg, Mrs. James K. Getz, Mrs. H. A. Hunter, Mrs. J. C. Illig, Mrs. R. L. Jones, Mrs. Harry M. Keim, Mrs. DeB. Randolph Keim, Mrs. James R. Kenney, Mrs. J. H. Keppelman, Mrs. Jacob S. Livingood, Mrs. Wm. R. McIlvain, Mrs. John D. Mishler, Mrs. Thomas P. Merritt, Mrs. J. L. Replier, Mrs. H. Stephenson, Mrs. Wm. F. Shanaman, Mrs. C. H. Tyson, Mrs. Jacob Weidel, Mrs. W. M. Weidman.

Ushers:—Mrs. John M. Archer, Chairwoman; Mrs. Howard L. Boas, Mrs. O. S. Doolittle, Mrs. W. Herbert Ermentrout, Mrs. Nathaniel Ferguson, Mrs. Harry H. Hillegass, Mrs. John J. Kutz, Mrs. E. M. Morgan, Mrs. Howard McIlvain, Mrs. Howard Potts, Mrs. Edwin Quier, Mrs. Wm. Seyfert, Mrs. W. W. Seitzinger, Mrs. W. Kerper Stevens, Mrs. George A. Wanner, Mrs. Charles G. Willson, Mrs. Philip Zieber.

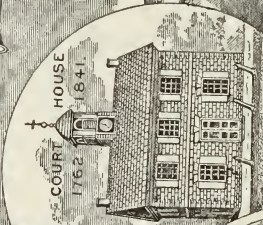
Official Design.—The Committee on Official Design, Samuel D. Dibert, Chairman, provided an historical and attractive design for envelopes and letter-heads, and the use of it was encouraged by all the committeemen. The committee supplied the envelopes with the design printed on them, distributing them from Dibert's Cigar Factory, and large quantities were disposed of to the manufacturers and business men of Reading. The total number supplied exceeded 700,000, amounting to three car loads. Many of them were sent to all civilized parts of the world, thereby giving the proposed celebration of the Sesqui-Centennial a thorough advertisement, and it was generally complimented here and elsewhere as one of the neatest and best ways of publication ever devised for Reading. It was a great success. The accompanying illustration on the following page represents the design.

Committee Work.—The Executive Committee, and the thirty-two committees worked nobly, persistently and heartily until the third day of June to make the proposed anniversary a grand success, and too much cannot be said in commendation of their united efforts in this behalf. The president of the Executive Committee, James P. Sellers, distinguished himself as a presiding officer, and all the members complimented him upon

READING'S SESQUICENTENNIAL
 JUBILEE WEEK
 JUNE 5TH TO 12TH
 1898.



150TH ANNIVERSARY.



S.S. COURT HOUSE
1762-1841.



1748

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[OFFICIAL DESIGN FOR ENVELOPES.]

his zeal in the common cause for our flourishing community, his punctuality at all the meetings, and his urbanity and fairness upon all occasions. At the last meeting, on the day named, the members, by way of appreciating his official conduct, presented him with a badge of exquisite design. All the chairmen of committees showed a similar spirit and it was commonly admitted that all were well chosen and remarkably efficient in this respect. Much ability was necessarily displayed, and the daily commendation from everybody during the several and respective parades, receptions, entertainments and exhibitions was indeed conclusive evidence of the complete success of the undertaking. The condition of the weather for one whole week was ideal, even marvellous, for rain visited all the sections of the country surrounding Reading ten and fifteen miles distant, but none here. Each succeeding day, with success in every department of the public demonstration, brought joy to the people and congratulations to the Committee; and when the last day passed and the last beams of the piercing search-lights faded in the darkness of midnight, the general sentiments were grand! brilliant!! admirable!!!

Official Program.—The Executive Committee selected the second week of June, 1898, from Sunday, the 5th, to Saturday, the 11th, for celebrating the Sesqui-Centennial of Reading, and adopted the following program for a proper observance of the anniversary, which had been submitted by John D. Mishler and referred to the Committee on Program:

Sunday, June 5th, Opening Day.—MORNING.—Services in all churches at the usual hours, with sermons appropriate to the occasion. AFTERNOON.—From 3 to 5 o'clock, band concerts at Penn Common, Mineral Spring Park, Fifth and Penn streets and Lauer's Park, in charge of Committee on Music.

Monday, June 6th, Citizens' Day.—MORNING.—From 8 to 9 o'clock, patriotic airs on the chimes of Christ Cathedral; 9 o'clock, sharp, at tap of fire alarm, blowing steam whistles in Reading for five minutes. Public Reception of visiting city officials by Reading city officials at the Court House, 11 o'clock to 1 o'clock. AFTERNOON.—Two o'clock, Civic Parade, comprising secret societies and lodges, G. A. R. and military organizations, pioneers and old citizens, U. S. P. O. department

officials and employees, musical societies, religious organizations, and social clubs. EVENING.—Electrical illumination of Penn street from Third to Eleventh, which shall be continued every evening. Electricity will be furnished by the Metropolitan Electric Company without charge. Fireworks at 8.30 o'clock, on Mt. Penn at a favorable spot, so as to be seen from nearly all parts of the city.

Tuesday, June 7th, Women's and Children's Day.—MORNING.—Reception at Academy of Music from 10 to 12 o'clock to women of state and national reputation. Reception at Court House from 11 o'clock to 1 o'clock to State Superintendent of public schools, and presidents and professors of colleges.—AFTERNOON.—Two o'clock. Parade of all our schools, from Penn Square to Penn Common and return, singing national airs on the way, accompanied by bands of Reading. EVENING.—Grand illumination of private residences and business places all over the city; also illumination with search-lights and original aerial novelties. Open air choral concert, 500 voices, and Germania Band in Penn Common.

Wednesday, June 8th, Firemen's Day.—MORNING.—Reception at Court House from 11 o'clock to 1 o'clock to Members of Congress, State Senators, Members of House of Representatives from Berks county, and presidents of Boards of Trade of eastern Pennsylvania. AFTERNOON.—One o'clock, Magnificent Parade of Fire Department of the city and invited guests.

Thursday, June 9th, Industrial Day.—MORNING.—Reception at Court House from 11 o'clock to 1 o'clock to Governor of Pennsylvania and staff, Judges of Supreme and Superior Courts, and Courts of Common Pleas and Orphans' Courts, heads of departments of State government, Governors of adjoining states. AFTERNOON.—Two o'clock. Grand Industrial Parade by manufacturers and business men of Reading.

Friday, June 10th, Equestrian and Bicycle Day.—MORNING.—Reception at Court House from 11 o'clock to 1 o'clock, Presidents, Vice Presidents and Boards of Directors of railroads of eastern Pennsylvania and connecting railroads. AFTERNOON.—Half-past one o'clock. Cavalcade and Corso. Ride, drive, and display of private horses, carriages, and fancy turnouts, with floral and ribbon decorations. Also at 2.30 o'clock,

Bicycle races in Reading Driving Park. EVENING.—Eight o'clock. Bicycle Flambeau Parade, artistic and comical, sentimental and elegant.

Saturday, June 11th, Everybody's Day.—DAWN.—Men, women and children in pursuit of ancient custom of marketing before daylight. AFTERNOON.—Regatta and serenata on Schuylkill River, terminating the festivities.

PART III.—ANNIVERSARY PROCEEDINGS.

The foregoing program was carried out in a most admirable and satisfactory manner. Most of the stores, business places, factories and dwellings in all parts of the city were beautifully decorated with the national flag, and with bunting in national colors, and a number of places displayed also the city colors and city flag, adopted by the Executive Committee. The electric illumination on Penn street was superb and won the expressed admiration of everybody in the city. It was unique in character and contributed a great deal toward the success of the anniversary. And for the first time in public demonstrations on Penn street, the people remained on the side-walks. The decorations on both sides of Penn street from Third to Eleventh were particularly attractive and several buildings are worthy of special mention on account of their brilliant electric illumination:—Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart's, Kline, Eppihimer & Co's, and C. K. Whitner & Co's. The headquarters of the Executive Committee, No. 25 North Sixth street, were profusely decorated with flags and bunting and the city colors, and the word "welcome" was shown every night in gas jets along the second story windows. A similar display of this word was made over the entrance to Dibert's Hall at Ninth and Penn streets; and the Consumers Gas Co. presented an illuminated national flag before their office, No. 20 North Fifth street.

The days set apart for the jubilee in detail were observed and celebrated in the following manner.

SUNDAY, JUNE 5TH.

In pursuance of the request of the Executive Committee, addressed to the respective pastors of all the churches in Reading, appropriate sermons were delivered during the morning at the

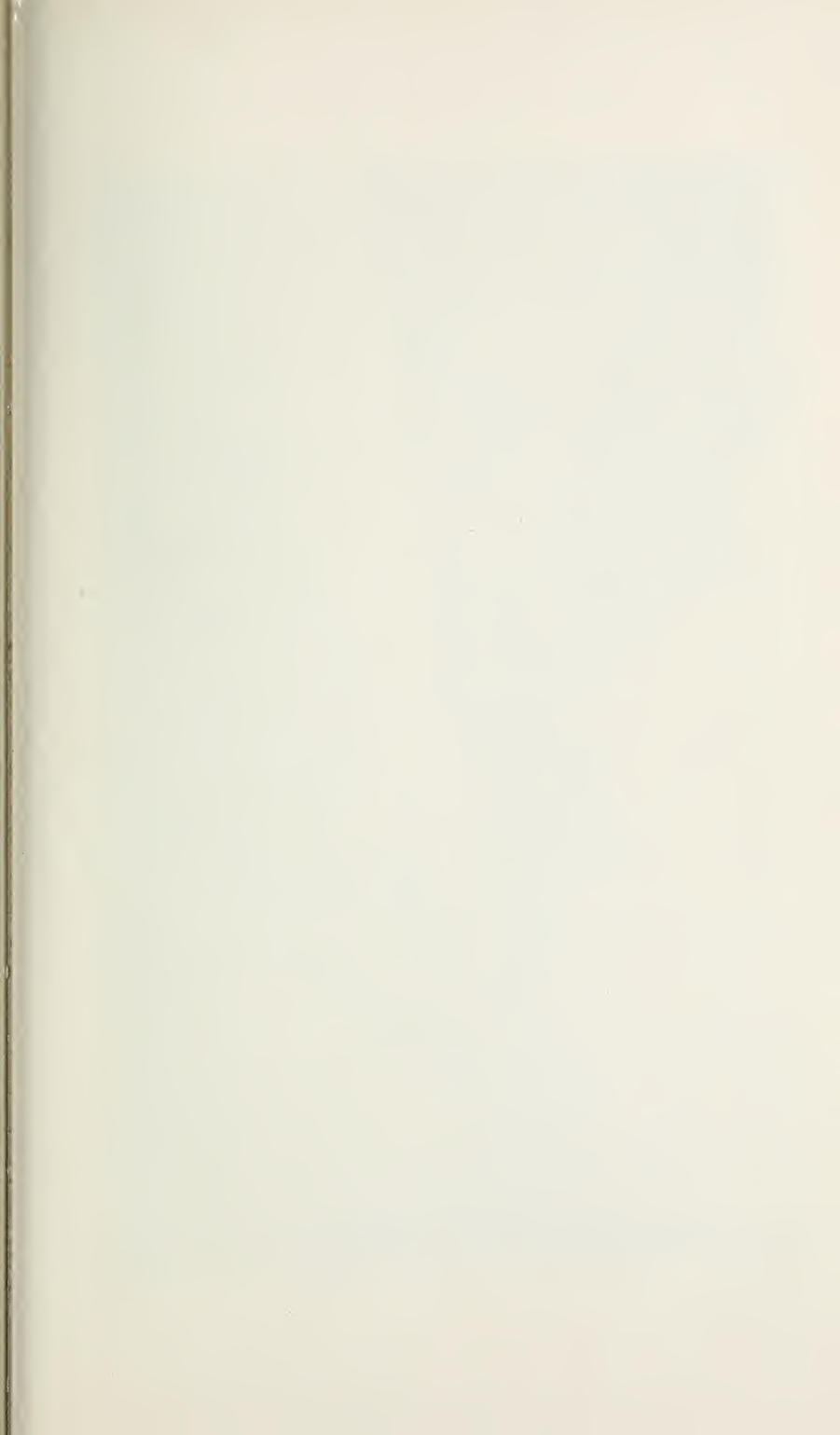
accustomed time, and prayers were offered to the Almighty Father for the many blessings bestowed upon the community, as manifested in various ways by the continued health, growth, peace and prosperity of the people during the past one hundred and fifty years.

In the afternoon, concerts of sacred music were held at four prominent points of the city, and they were all largely attended, particularly in Penn Common. The Ringgold Band was in Penn square; the Germania Band in Penn Common; the Athletic Band in Mineral Spring Park, and the Liberty Band in Lauer's Park, all giving their services gratuitously. The sociability, exemplary deportment and good order that prevailed at the public places mentioned were remarkable, and taken together they expressed the true character of the community.

MONDAY, JUNE 6TH.

Morning.—At nine o'clock in the morning, after the fire alarm had struck its customary tap, many steam whistles of the numerous industrial establishments of the city were sounded for five minutes, and they together indicated in a most emphatic manner the united efforts of the people in behalf of the great jubilee and their joyful spirit upon this extraordinary occasion. The chimes of Christ Cathedral were rung by Harry D. Berlin, chimier. There were twelve selections which included the national airs and other popular pieces, and the clear tones of the bells rang out their inspiring notes apparently more sweetly than since first rung twenty-five years ago. The condition of the atmosphere was just suited to the occasion and everybody was delighted, especially the anxious members of the Executive Committee.

A reception in the main room of the Court House from eleven o'clock in the morning to one o'clock in the afternoon was held by Hon. Jacob Weidel, Mayor, and he extended a cordial welcome to a large number of visiting officials. The imposing front of the building and also the bench at the east end of the court room were decorated in a handsome manner, surpassing all previous decorations, and the Germania Band discoursed a fine program of music. Delegations were present from Lancaster, Lebanon, Harrisburg, West Chester, Altoona, and Wilmington.





HEAD OF CIVIC PARADE, JUNE 6, 1898.

CIVIC PARADE.

Afternoon.—The Civic Parade moved promptly at two o'clock at the tap of the fire alarm. The route was from Second and Penn on the north side of Penn to Perkiomen avenue, south and east on Perkiomen avenue to Seventeenth street, to the right, west on Perkiomen avenue to Penn, south side of Penn to Fifth, east side of South Fifth to Pine, to the right, west side of Fifth, to Franklin, to Fourth, to Penn and dismissed; and the order of the parade was as follows:

LINE OF PARADE.

Chief Marshal—Harvey J. Fueller.

Chief of Staff—Howard L. Boas, and assistant, Ellis B. Moyer. Dispatch Bearers—B. F. Austrian, W. C. Billman, George W. Billman, Robert P. Shick.

Aids—J. George Hintz, Frank Menges, Rev. Stanley L. Krebs, C. Ed. Mellert, Charles H. Hunter, William B. Eckert, Howard Bright, Jenkin Hill, Charles H. Shick, Frank I. Rauch, Harry S. High, Frank Heilman, Daniel K. Hoch, Charles G. Willson, Robert D. Millholland, Harvey F. Heinly, William S. Monyer, John H. Keppelman, Harry L. Moyer, Edson B. Luigard, William H. Luden, Wellington D. Dundore, William H. Thornley, Irvin G. Miller, J. Harry Moyer, Peter S. Braucher, David C. Lotz, Henry B. Hintz, Charles E. Leippe, James S. Ammon, Edward M. Luden, Edgar W. Alexander, Edward DeLong, Wellington G. Woods, James M. Hutchison, Howard S. Baker, Samuel S. Hoff.

First Defenders, (14 in carriages,) with the famous flag which was carried by the Ringgold Light Artillery, when the company went to Washington, D. C., in April, 1861, in response to the call for troops, labelled "First Flag of the War;" Commander, Jeremiah Seiders.

Germania band, M. A. Althouse, leader, 35 men.

Executive Committee, James P. Sellers, Chairman; City Officials and Councilmen and the visiting Mayors and delegations of councils, occupying together 25 carriages.

FIRST DIVISION.

Military:—Marshal, Capt. F. M. Yeager; guide, B. B. Weidner; aids, Dr. F. L. DeGour, Harry Gable, Samuel Donahower; bugler, Jonas Montgomery; color bearer, John Snyder.

McLean Post, No. 16, G. A. R., commander, Edward Auman, Burkey's Band of Hamburg; Keim post, No. 76, G. A. R., commander, Lee C. Bricker; Meade Camp Guard, No. 16, Sons of Veterans, Capt. Harry Eisenbise, Althouse's band, of Shoemakersville; Meade Camp, No. 16, Sons of Veterans, Capt. George Eckert; Delegates of Camp Guard of Camp 233, Easton; Camp Guard of Sedgwick Rifles, Lebanon; Battalion, 1st regiment United States Reserves. Boys' Brigade, commanded by Colonel S. J. Weiler; Lieut. Col., Harry Wieand; Adjutant, H. S. Fichthorn; Quartermaster, Ed. Stoekel; Sergt. Major, H. Yocum;

Chief Musician, Harry Gossler; Color Sergt., Cyrus High; Boys' drum corps, Newmanstown; 1st battalion, Major H. Althouse.—Co. B., Capt. William Hinckley.—Co. C., Capt. John E. Hinckley.—Co. G., Capt. Marsh.—Co. L., Capt. Richard Boddy; Fleetwood Guards; 2d Battalion, Major H. S. Homan.—Co. F., Lieut. Jones.—Co. D., Capt. Fred Weiler.—Co. I., Capt. H. W. Wisler; Colors and Color guards; 3d Battalion, Major William Houck.—Co. E., Capt. Harry G. Johnson.—Co. M., Lieut. Charles Lessig.—Co. K., Lieut. Charles Kinsey; and 40 men drawing a piece of artillery, which was borrowed from the 2d Artillerists, Philadelphia.

SECOND DIVISION.

Post Office: Marshal, Postmaster, John S. Thompson; guide, Raymond Diehl; aids, W. F. Kinch, Jerome Seiders and Charles W. Hoover.

Alpha drum corps: Post office clerks and letter carriers in summer uniform. The clerks wore white hats and yellow gloves, the carriers white gloves, who carried their mail bags and wore badges bearing the portrait of postmaster Thompson.

Printing:—Marshal, Elmer A. German; aids, Allen H. Ray, M. Luther Mason, Charles S. Butler. William M. Bauman, William H. Rohrbach.

Lewis Cadet Band; Reading Typographical Union, No. 86, Capt. James L. Mast; American flag and a large silvered printer's stick.

THIRD DIVISION.

Pioneers: Marshal, Jerome L. Boyer. Eleven carriages containing 54 pioneer residents of Reading.

Memorial Post of Honor, in bearskin caps, gray coats and duck trousers, William Cotterel, captain; Memorial Guard, Capt. E. Morris; Riverside band; Boys' Brigade drum corps; Baptist Boys' Brigade, Companies A. and B., Capt., Benj. Kreisher.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Odd Fellows:—Marshal, Jonas Schmoyer; guide Charles Buckwalter; aids, Adam Schlottman, John Babst, Thomas Morgan, Milton Shirey, H. B. Newpher, S. W. Wenger, John Hand, Thomas Shanaman, William H. Matz, Charles B. Albright.

Alburtis band; Col. Rile, Philadelphia, 1st regiment, Patriarch Militant and staff; Col. A. W. Wanger, Lancaster; Major Wm. Tonkin, Lancaster; Capt. C. Aull, Philadelphia; Capt. J. S. Batroff, Philadelphia; Capt. S. C. Stambaugh, Lebanon; Ensign, William Weidenshime, Philadelphia; Lieut. Harry Sines, Philadelphia; Canton, No. 25, Uniformed Rank, Lancaster, Capt. J. W. Wengert; Canton, No. 2, Reading, Capt. Rieger; Vigilant lodge, No. 194 captain, Jonas Moyer; Muhlenberg lodge, No. 1,085, captain, Henry Schmeck; eight boys carrying a flag and members in red, white and blue sashes; Oley lodge, No. 218, Thomas D. Becker, captain; Liberty band, Hamburg; Emblematic lodge, No. 169, Irvin Homan, captain; Mt. Penn lodge, No. 518, Capt.

H. B. Newpher; Kosciuski lodge, No. 374, Rawlinsville, Lancaster county, Capt. A. Reece; Progressive lodge, No. 470; Salome lodge, No. 105; Reading lodge, No. 348; Delegations from Manatawny lodge, Pottstown, Wernersville, Philadelphia, and Myerstown.

FIFTH DIVISION.

Knights of Friendship:—Marshal, E. A. C. Lohman; guide, Valentine Kuhlman; aids, Aug. D. Gerhard, Wm. Woodward, W. D. Fichtorn, David A. Gerhard. Chas. Freeman, John W. Orr.

Columbia band of Stevens; Reading Consultory, No. 3, full uniform, O. B. Dorward, captain; H. W. Haak Consultory, No. 1, Phillipsburg, Jacob Hedley, captain; Reading Chamber, No. 26, Capt. Adam H. Hoffman; Fidelia Chamber, No. 5, Capt. David Kuser; Charity Chamber, No. 23, Capt. Geo. Zerbe; Friendship Chamber, No. 28, Capt. Harry Bressler; Fraternity Chamber, No. 4, Capt. Joseph Hatzel; Lincoln Chamber, No. 36, Capt. D. M. Smith; Delegation from Philadelphia, with drum corps; True Friendship Chamber, of Norristown, Capt. John Jacobs; Loyal Chamber, of Sinking Spring, Capt. James Ruth.

Knights of Friendship Float. Gorgeous affair, with massive arches, the exterior and interior typifying the principles of the order. The roof was supported by six columns and the arches contained red draperies. On the top was the Bible and a globe of the world. Knight junior, knight bachelor, and knight errant, the initiatory degree, were the occupants. It was drawn by four heavy horses.

Friendship Chamber Float, containing the ladies of the Knights of Friendship, dressed in red, white and blue. The float was an artistic affair, occupied by young ladies, who wore white, trimmed with red and blue, and crowns on their heads.

Delegation of Knights from Oakland, mounted on horses.

Heptasophs:—Marshal, Irvin G. Miller; aids, Charles Bristle, Edward Levan, Charles I. Matz, F. P. Wolfinger, William B. Hafer.

Reading Conclave, No. 67, and Berks Conclave, No. 133, had a magnificent float, drawn by four horses, representing the motto of the order—Fraternity, Truth and Wisdom.

SIXTH DIVISION.

P. O. S. of A:—Marshal, Edwin C. Shaffer; guide, Irvin E. Saylor; aids, Frank Kalbach, Thomas Mull, Charles J. Spohn, John Trout, William S. Ribble, George W. Wertley, William Moyer, M. S. Brendel.

Boys' Brigade drum corps, Lexington Commandery, No. 2, Captain, E. E. Hummel; Camp No. 89, Captain, John H. Long, dressed in white coats and caps; Birdsboro band, Camp No. 212, Captain, Wm. L. Rice; wore white duck coats, caps and white gloves; Athletic band; Camp No. 560, Captain, D. P. Kramer; Delegations of Camps 670, 552 and 691 were also in line.

SEVENTH DIVISION.

Jr. O. U. A. M:—Marshal, R. S. Heckman; guide, George Luigard; assistant marshal, P. S. Hinershitz; aids, Irvin P. Palm, John W. Clark, C. M. Wheeler, John C. Roop.

Ringgold band, Joseph Winters, leader, 40 men; Combined Reading Councils; Perseverance, No. 19, marshal, Walter Yeich; Resolute, No. 27, marshal, A. F. Croll; Industry, No. 163, marshal, Irvin P. Rahn; Thaddeus Stevens, No. 252, marshal, J. W. Clark; Sinking Spring band, Neversink, No. 371, marshal, Oscar Van Buskirk; Samuel J. Randall, No. 448, marshal, C. M. Wheeler; D. J. Lang, No. 995, marshal, E. S. Stump; Diligent, No. 4, of Philadelphia, marshal, J. R. McKelvey, with guard and band of 37 men; Band; Empire, No. 120; Hamilton, No. 138, marshal, William Jones; U. S. Grant, No. 352, marshal, Jonathan Leyman; National band, of Pottstown; Pioneer, No. 380, marshal, C. Walbert; Royersford, No. 521, marshal, Edward Morton; Coventryville, No. 863; Coventryville band, Frank Cockron and Edwin Morris, marshals; Blue Rock, No. 904, marshal, Ira P. Dunn; Churchtown band; James E. Hyatt, No. 923, Philadelphia.

Float—Miniature school house, carried by Wilmer Crow, Elmer Faust, William Hinnershitz, Harold Werner, and guarded by the Boys' Brigade of Calvary Reformed church.

EIGHTH DIVISION.

Catholic Organizations:—Marshal, John J. Kelly; guide, John P. Lenich; aids, Henry J. Schmeider, George H. Felix, Edward P. Morris, Harry A. Bingaman, Andrew Gallman, Edward Tobolski, John F. Tomaszewski, James M. Kase, James Kelly, John Sakiewicz, Andrew Shisslak, Thomas Lillis and John Talknowski.

Third Brigade band, of Pottsville, 32 pieces; Bonifacius Brotherhood, John Sauer, marshal; Holy Cross Society, Aaron M. Clay, marshal; Emerald Beneficial Association, Patrick Burns, marshal; St. Peter's T. A. B. Cadet Society and Advance Guard, Daniel F. McCullough, marshal; St. Peter's T. A. B. Society, marshal, Michael P. Connelly; Birdsboro band; St. Cosmos' Uniformed Guards, marshal, John Sakiewicz; St. Stanislaus' Society, marshal, Stanislaus Tobolski; St. Joseph's Society, marshal, Emanuel Richter; St. Paul Commandery, No. 166, Knights of St. John, marshal, Charles Vogel; Perseverance band, of Lebanon, 23 pieces; Division No. 1, Ancient Order of Hibernians, marshal, Thomas J. Flemming; St. Mary's Queen of Poland Society, marshal, Michael Jogwiak; St. John the Baptist Society; marshal, Joseph Pomey; Lancaster band; Commandery, No. 49, Knights of St. John, of Lancaster, with Lancaster band; Columbus Commandery, No. 271, Knights of St. John, marshal, Capt. M. J. Selling; St. Albert's Society, marshal, John Tylowski.

NINTH DIVISION.

Knights of Pythias:—Marshal, C. J. Bonawitz; guide, Sergt. Maj. Geo. L. Diefenderfer; aids, Charles F. Linde, Col. Willis H. Faber, Col. J. M. Newhart, Capt. Wm. H. Warner, Capt. S. Skeen, Lieut. C. M. Deem.

Bernville band; Co. 44, U. R. K. of P., Reading, Capt. C. W. Gerhart; Delegations from Friendship, No. 5; Mt. Penn, No. 65, Mohnsville, No. 483; Lexington, No. 155, and Robesonia.

TENTH DIVISION.

Knights of the Mystic Chain:—Marshal, Howard J. Borkert; guide, Edward Landis; aids, Charles Auge, Edward Kramer, Albert Lord.

Citizens' band, Mohnsville; Reading Commandery, company D, uniformed rank; marshal, Albert Lord; Alpha, Neversink and Marion Castles, visiting knights. Float representing castle of the 15th century.

ELEVENTH DIVISION.

American Protestant Associations:—Marshal, H. J. Pflum; guide, Harrison Houck; aids, Frank Fisher, Harry Button.

Electric drum corps; combined lodges of the American Protestant Association, including Hope, No. 1; Wadence, No. 16; Liberty, No. 3, Philadelphia, and No. 104, of Reading, Henry J. Bloom, marshal; National Grand Master Elias MacDonald, of Phila., was in command.

TWELFTH DIVISION.

German Societies:—Marshal, Louis Hermann. This division consisted of two floats; one by the Bavarian society with young ladies dressed in white; the other by the Cannstatter society, with little girls dressed in white and a fruit column in the centre.

THIRTEENTH DIVISION.

Knights of the Golden Eagle:—Marshal, Ellis B. Moyer; guide, E. B. Slichter; aids, Charles Corkhill, David Sands, David Snyder, H. M. Heffner, N. S. Hoffman, W. S. Miller and J. P. Sands; Lieut. Gen. Reinicke in carriage.

St. Lawrence band; Harris Commandery, Philadelphia, Capt. Geo. W. Dooley; Blue Cross Commandery, Lancaster, Capt. E. F. Farrier; Elmo Commandery, Altoona, Capt. E. E. Ashman; Keystone Commandery, Reading, Capt. J. E. Grill; Mt. Penn Commandery, Reading, Capt. J. A. Fichthorn; St. Bernard Commandery, Reading, Capt. W. H. Houck; combined Castles of Reading, Capt. David Sands; Red Cross Commandery, Nicetown, Philadelphia, Capt. Jos. Garwood.

Float, "Pilgrim," consisted of arches on a wagon, gaily decorated with flags and bunting and full degree team in uniform.

Float, "Knight," presented royal chamber with degree team seated under canopy.

Float, "Crusaders," Wisdom Castle, 488, degree team had charge, decorated with flags and buntings.

Float, "Ladies' Temple," consisted of two sailboats mounted on a wagon, the degree teams of the various Ladies' auxiliaries occupying seats dressed in full regalia.

Ladies of the Golden Eagle, in carriages.

FOURTEENTH DIVISION.

Knights of Malta:—Marshal, E. E. Taylor; guide, E. D. Levan; aid Albert E. Palm.

Nantmeal band; Mystic Star commandery, No. 47, Knights of Malta, A. H. Boyer, captain. Members of the order were present from Phila-

delphia, Hazleton, Berwick, Allentown, Slatington, besides members of the grand lodge.

FIFTEENTH DIVISION.

Foresters:—Marshal, Charles A. Horn; guide, Benjamin F. Hartz; aids, Alfred Rogers, Ambrose Lenich, Benjamin Paradise, A. K. Moyer; general chairman, W. G. Edwards.

Winona band, Mohnsville; Court Lancaster, Lancaster, W. C. Acker, captain; Iroquois band, Lancaster; Court Neversink, captain, Henry Lord; Court Reading, captain, Henry Rodgers; National band, Pottstown; Court Progress, captain, Geo. Kemp; Court Victory, captain, Ed. Showers; Court Wyomissing, captain, A. K. Moyer; Court Sylvan, Pottstown, leader, A. Brown.

By the reports made to the Chief Marshal, there were in line 5937 persons.

Signal Corps.—The signal corps, provided by the committee, of which Charles H. Armour was chairman, was admirably conducted, and facilitated the movements of the parade in a noteworthy manner. The corps comprised a chief signal officer, Thomas E. Weber, and 22 flag bearers, all of whom carried two flags, one white with a square blue center, and the other red with a square white centre. While the column moved along without interruption, the white flag was waved incessantly; but when a halt became necessary or a break arose, the red flag was waved until the obstruction was removed. The corps rendered valuable services in all the parades.

Evening.—The Committee on Fireworks gave a brilliant display of fireworks in Penn Common at the second turn in the boulevard from 8.30 to 9.30 o'clock, which was witnessed and admired by many thousands of people in all parts of Reading, particularly in the Common and vicinity. It was seen for many miles to the west in Lebanon Valley and to the north in Schuylkill Valley. The public appreciation in the Common was manifested by loud demonstrations of applause.

A kite display was given by William A. Eddy, of Bayonne, N. J., in connection with the fireworks which was a complete success. It was the first time in this country that lanterns and red fire were attached to a kite-string simultaneously. Three kites were successfully floated, one seven feet in diameter and the other two six feet. The kites were attached to a cable 2000 feet long. The large kite was raised 400 feet high and the smaller ones 1500 feet. They remained fixed for nearly three

hours and could be plainly seen. Six lanterns, red, white and green, were attached to the main cable and they illuminated the kite string brilliantly. At 11 o'clock a large national flag was sent up in the air to a distance of 250 feet. And while these displays were going on, a powerful search-light, stationed on the top of the prison tower, was thrown in all directions over the surrounding earth and into the sky, and its piercing beam in the darkness presented a striking appearance. It was frequently thrown upon the kites. These three displays together afforded an entertainment whose unique character exceeded everything of a free public exhibition heretofore given at Reading. A search light was also operated on the roof of the Grand Opera House for a similar display in the interior part of the city.

The Reception and Entertainment Committee, of which Mrs. Daniel Ermentrout was Chief Directress, gave a reception at the Neversink Mountain Hotel to the guests of the Woman's Committee from 8.30 to 10.30 o'clock in the evening. The Chief Directress was assisted by Mrs. Wm. R. McIlvain and Mrs. J. Wilhelm Hartmann in welcoming the guests and presenting them to the members of the Woman's Committee and a large number of other persons who called to pay their respects. More than thirty distinguished guests were received during the evening, including Mrs. Daniel H. Hastings, (wife of the governor of Penn'a), Mrs. E. D. Gillespie, (State Regent of Colonial Dames), Mrs. Anita Newcombe McGee, (Vice President General Daughters American Revolution), Mrs. N. D. Sperry, (also Vice Pres. Gen. D. A. R.), and Mrs. Thos. Roberts (State Regent of D. A. R.) After the reception, luncheon was served in the spacious dining room of the hotel, 134 persons participating; a special orchestra furnished a select program of music during the entire evening.

TUESDAY, JUNE 7TH.

Morning. —The Academy of Music was handsomely decorated by the Committees on Decorations for Woman's Day, and it presented a superb appearance for the public reception to the invited guests. Henry M. Keim, Chairman of Woman's Committee, at 10 o'clock, opened the meeting with a short address. The invited guests and members of the Committee, numbering over 150, were on the stage, and most of the seats in the audi-

torium were occupied. Mrs. Daniel Ermentrout, Chief Directress of the Committee, presided over the meeting and remarks on different prominent topics were made by the following distinguished women: Mrs. Horace Brock, president of Federation of Penna. Women; Mrs. Anita Newcomb McGee, Vice President General D. A. R., and Director of Hospital Corps, Mrs. Thomas D. Roberts, State Regent of D. A. R., and Mrs. E. D. Gillespie, State Regent of the Colonial Dames. The essay by Mrs. Edward Robins, secretary of the Audubon Society of Penna., on "Bird Protection" was read by Mrs. de B. Randolph Keim, owing to her unavoidable absence. The program included selections of vocal music by a woman's chorus, with Prof. E. A. Berg as director, and instrumental music by the Germania band.

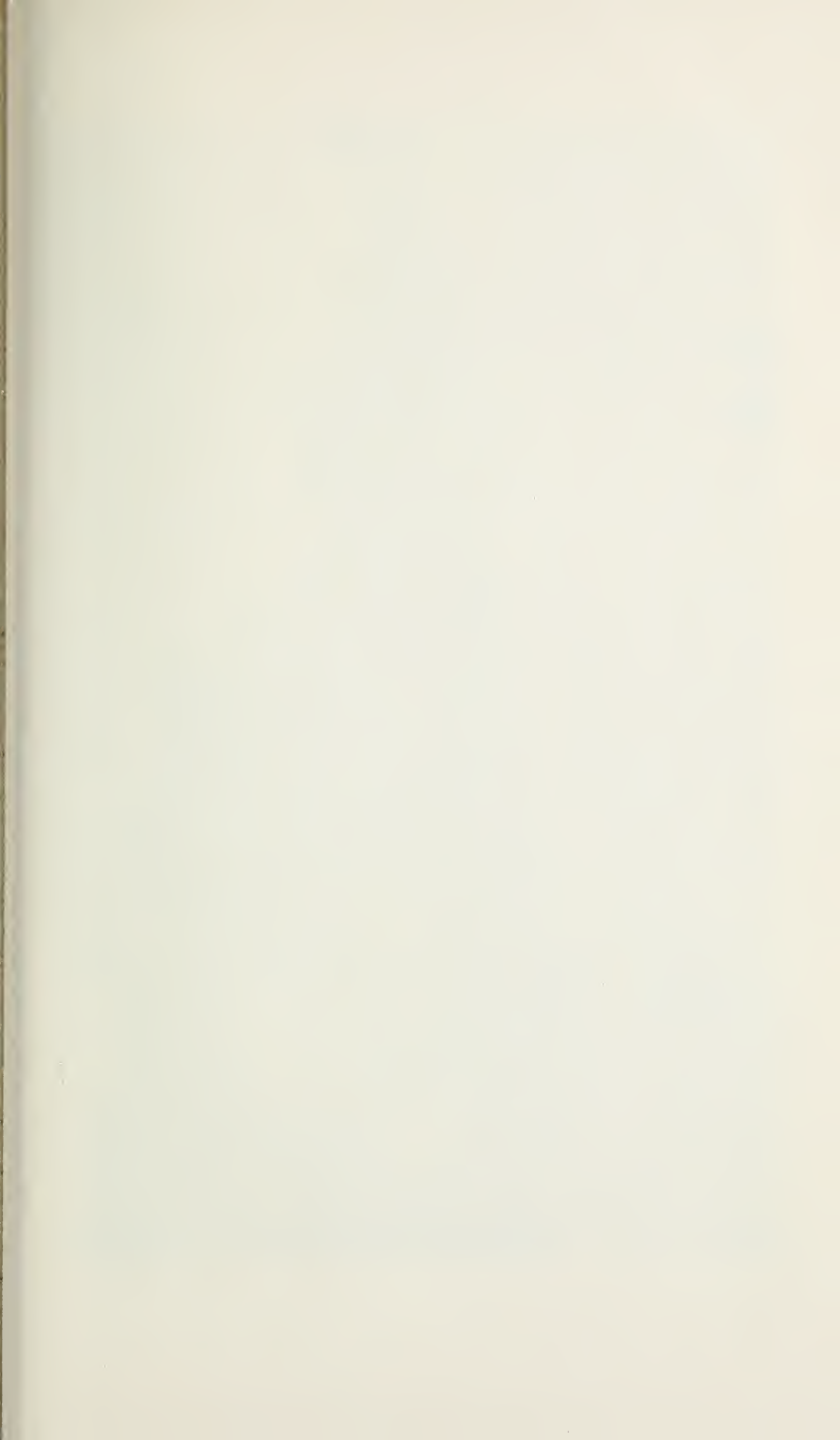
A public reception was tendered to educators in the Court room from 11 o'clock to 1 o'clock, and while the guests were being welcomed by the Committee on Reception, Gen. David McM. Gregg, chairman, and introductions made to numerous committeemen and the citizens generally, the Ringgold Band discoursed a fine program of music.

Mrs. Daniel Ermentrout tendered a public reception at her residence, "Graustein," on the Hill Road, from 3 to 6 o'clock to the distinguished women who spoke in the Academy of Music during the morning exercises. Many leading citizens of Reading were present, and the occasion was one of the most brilliant social events in the history of the city.

SCHOOL PARADE.

Afternoon.—The parade of the school children was held during the afternoon, and it was the most successful public demonstration of the kind ever witnessed at Reading. In every way it was a perfect success. All the pupils were not in the procession, and they were not expected to be, but they were largely represented, sufficiently so to demonstrate the strength, influence and excellence of the system of education in the community. The total number in line has been estimated at 9000. All walked, marshals, aids, committees, officers, teachers and children. There were no horses nor conveyances in line.

The route of the parade was up Penn street from Third to Eleventh, thence to Washington, thence to Park circle, thence





HEAD OF SCHOOL PARADE, JUNE 7, 1895.

to the right along the prison to the Park entrance, thence along Penn street to Fourth, and dismissed; and the line of march was as follows:—

LINE OF PARADE.

Chief Marshal, City Superintendent, E. Mackey.

Chief of staff:—J. George Hintz; aids, J. Ed. Wanner, (president of School Board), Albert R. Hoover, (treasurer), Francis S. Roland (secretary), R. A. Townsend, James Kase, Frederick Stephan, Augustus Bartels, George S. Wagner, Wm. McClellan, Jenkin Hill, David C. Lotz, Samuel S. Hoff, James S. Ammon, Charles L. Moll, Jeremiah Seiders, James M. Hutchison, Wm. H. Luden, Caleb J. Bieber, Harvey F. Heinly, Howard L. Boas, Henry B. Hintz, Harvey J. Fueller, Frederick Stephan, Jr., Walter S. Miller, Adolph Kauffman, and all the members of the School Board, (whose names appear in Part 4.)

FIRST DIVISION.

Boys' High School, Prof. M. E. Scheibner, principal, in command; total boys in line, 211.

1st Battalion, Class of 1898, Charles S. Foos, major; Edwin L. Hettinger and Oliver J. Wolff, captains.—2nd Battalion, Class of 1899, Frank Hankinson, major; Charles S. Lessig, Aitken Frankhouser and Wilbur F. Price, captains.—3rd Battalion, Class of 1900, Walter S. Harley, major; J. H. Graeff, Stanley F. Bingaman and Charles T. Bates, captains.—4th Battalion, Class of 1901, Levi Mengel and Frank C. Rex, majors; Forrest G. Schaeffer, Leroy Marshall, Joseph Ulman and Samuel J. Lockhart, captains. Boys were dressed in dark suits, white canvas hats with bands of class colors, and carried canes.

Girls' High School, J. Ellsworth Hinkley in command; total girls in line, 191.

1st Battalion, Class of 1898, M. Geyer, major; Helen Strunk and Mary Roehrig, captains.—2nd Battalion, Class of 1899, Margaret Gossler, major; Bessie Seiders and Elizabeth Horner, captains.—3rd Battalion, Class of 1900, Mabel Senior, major; Florence Miller and Maud Bellemere, captains.—4th Battalion, class of 1901, Florence Burkey, major; Bessie Frantz, Cora Davis and Laura Rote, captains. Girls were dressed in dark skirts, white waists, and sailor hats with bands of class colors. They marched in an admirable manner and won applause along the entire route.

SECOND DIVISION.

Jesse Orr Building, William Hinkley in command; total in line 138.

M. B. Kreisher, major; Grammar Grade, Nora C. Moyer, teacher.—Male Secondary, Lucy M. Rorke, teacher.—Female Secondary, Sarah Laub, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Mary E. Swartz, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Annie E. Howell, teacher.—Male Primary, Gertrude E. Barber, teacher.—Mixed Primary, Alice H. Goodhart, teacher.—Female Primary, Jennie P. Morris, teacher. Dressed as follows: Girls in white dresses

red sashes, black student caps, and small U. S. flags as badges; boys in black knee breeches, white blouses, red neckties, and black student caps.

THIRD DIVISION.

Harry G. Davis in command.

Bingaman and Orange Building; total in line, 136. William Hulsizer, colonel; Arthur Merget, lieutenant colonel.—Male Grammar, Mary E. Jones, teacher.—Female Grammar, Amanda G. Jones, teacher.—Male Secondary, May M. Sauerbier, teacher.—Advanced Primary, Mrs. Maggie J. Thomas, teacher.—Mixed Primary, Kate E. Flemming, teacher.—Female Primary, Ellen Fink, teacher. Girls wore white dresses and white Tam O'Shanter hats; boys, dark trousers, white shirts, belts and caps. All wore dark blue badges with national flags,

Thomas Severn Building; total in line, 187—Advanced Secondary, Anna L. Parker, teacher—Male Secondary, Agnes Driscoll, teacher.—Female Secondary, Kate Wittich, teacher.—Male Advanced Primary, Susan Matz, teacher. Female Advanced Primary, Mary Thomas, teacher.—Mixed Primary, Sarah Bernhart, teacher.—Male Primary, Emma J. Gragg, teacher—Female Primary, Kate O'Reilly, teacher.—Girls all in white, with sash of national colors; boys in white shirts, dark trousers, and belts and ties in national colors.

Ninth and Spruce Building; total in line, 222. Howard Roland, colonel; George Miller, lieutenant colonel.—Advanced Secondary, Maggie L. Howell, teacher.—Secondary, Esther E. Rice, teacher.—Advanced Primary, Josephine Murray, teacher.—Advanced Primary, Emily Willson and Beulah Davies, teachers.—Primary, Martha E. Homan, Lucy Lawrence and Marian J. Wesley, teachers. Girls dressed in white dresses, white caps and blue sashes; boys in white shirts and caps, dark trousers, blue neckties, blue and white striped belts.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Reuben Smink in command.

Hagenman Building; total in line 166. Arthur L. Smink, lieutenant-colonel.—Advanced Secondary, Annie Shaaber, teacher.—Female Adv. Sec., Martha L. Stahle, teacher.—Male Secondary, Grace A. Osborne, teacher.—Female Secondary, E. Alice Homan, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Maggie Ray, teacher.—Female Adv. Primary, Alice S. Ganser, teacher.—Male Primary, Annie Beyler, teacher.—Female Primary, A. Lizzie Radford, teacher. Girls dressed in red, white and blue waists and caps, trimmed in national colors; boys in dark suits and white caps, with red, white and blue bands; and both wearing light blue badges.

FIFTH DIVISION.

James Kase in command. Daniel McCullough, aid; total in line 250.

St Peter's Parochial School. Boys:—Harry Bingham, colonel; Michael Frantz, lieutenant-colonel; Edward McCann, William Day and Francis Ganter, captains. Girls:—Marie Swartz, colonel; Mary Conner, lieutenant-colonel; Mary McCann, Nellie Fessler and Grace Fordyce,

captains. Girls dressed in white; boys in dark pantaloons and white waists; all carried national flags.

George Lerch Building; 181 in line. Harry Moyer, colonel; Neal Nyce, lieutenant-colonel. Grammar Grade, Lina M. Roland, teacher.—Male Adv. Sec., Ada W. Ribble, teacher.—Female Adv. Sec., Jessie F. Hughes, teacher.—Mixed Secondary, Annie Fink, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Mary Ribble, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Ettie Woltkill, teacher.—Male Primary, Myra Eisenhower, teacher.—Female Primary, Irene Miller, teacher. Girls dressed in white, white caps and red, white and blue ribbon, carrying Japanese parasols; boys in dark suits, white ties and white caps, with national colors. Boys of primary grade with white suits, white caps and national colors.

SIXTH DIVISION.

George C. Houck in command.

Chestnut Street Building; total in line, 150. Edward A. Stoeckel, colonel. Male Grammar, Louise Werner, teacher.—Female Grammar, Lillie Schoener, teacher.—Female Secondary, Elizabeth W. Davies, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Ida C. Koch, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Lilla Snyder, teacher.—Male Primary, Lillie Peacock, teacher.—Female Primary, Daisy Keim, teacher.—Male Primary, Norma C. Geiger, teacher. Girls dressed in white with belts and ties of national colors; grammar grade with Anthony Wayne hats trimmed with rosettes in national colors and crossed flags; primary grade with Tam O'Shanter hats and scarfs of national or city colors. Grammar boys, dark suits, white caps and alternating red, white and blue scarfs, and canes with national colors. Primary boys, white suits and caps, and Tam O'Shanter hats, and belts and ties of national colors.

Franklin Street Building; total in line, 129. Albert E. Luiphard colonel; Holden Stott, lieutenant colonel.—Female Adv. Sec., Mary M. Ketrer, teacher.—Male Adv. Sec., Beckie Warley, teacher.—Male Secondary, Myrtie Hergesheimer, teacher.—Female Secondary, Sallie A. Green, teacher.—Male Advanced Primary, Mary Connelly, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Ida K. Hoffmaster teacher.—Male Primary, Margaret M. Wagner, teacher.—Female Primary, Lizzie W. Moyer, teacher. Girls in white with scarfs of national colors and sailor or Tam O'Shanter hats with national colors. Boys in dark pants, white waists and scarfs, white caps and ties with national colors, carrying canes with United States flags attached.

SEVENTH DIVISION.

Edward E. Hummel in command.

Ricktown Building; total in line, 193. William Rhoads, colonel. Secondary, Sue C. Sheeler, teacher.—Advanced Primary, Clemmie Roberts and Alice R. Bechtel, teachers.—Primary, Margaret Herner and Margie Kantner, teachers.—Mixed Primary, Laura L. Kantner, teacher. Girls wore dark blue skirts, white blouses and red poke bonnets; boys, dark trousers, white caps, blouses and leggings, and ties and belts of national colors.

Washington Street Building; total in line, 238. George Schaum, colonel; Walter Dearolf, major. Male Grammar, Amelia C. Hobson, teacher.—Female Grammar, Emma L. Hahn, teacher.—Male Adv. Sec., Sallie C. Morris, teacher.—Female Adv. Sec., Clara Boyer, teacher.—Male Secondary, Ruth D. Smedley, teacher.—Female Secondary, S. Emma Moyer, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Annie E. Mansfield, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Lizzie Jones, teacher.—Male Primary, Gertrude Ziegler, teacher.—Mixed Primary, Mary Addams, teacher.—Female Primary, Myriam Geiger, teacher.—Mixed Primary, Ruth P. Clouse, teacher. Grammar and Advanced Secondary schools, boys wore ordinary dress and white caps and badges, and girls, dark skirts, white waists and yachting caps, red belts and badges; other girls dressed in white, trimmed in national colors, and other boys in dark trousers, white waists and pilot caps with regalias of national colors.

Pear and Buttonwood Streets Building; total in line 101.—Male Adv. Prim., Mrs. Emma L. Foreman, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Annie Hutchinson, teacher.—Female Primary, Irma M. Wells, teacher.—Male Primary, Mattie C. Koch, teacher. Girls in white dresses with sashes and baker caps of national colors; boys in white waists and caps with sashes, ties and trimmings of national colors.

EIGHTH DIVISION.

Augustus Bartels in command.

St. John's Parochial School; 120 in line. Augustus Lessig, colonel. Boys:—Max Koffke, captain; girls:—Mamie Lencke, captain; teachers, C. M. Wonnberger, Jennie Hamel and Annie Welte. Girls were dressed in white with white caps and red, white and blue sashes; and boys in white suits with white caps and red, white and blue belts.

Lewis Briner Building; total in line, 160. J. H. Seiders, colonel; Jay Seltzer, lieutenant-colonel.—Male Adv. Sec., Araminta B. Richards, teacher.—Female Adv. Sec., Minerva E. Clous, teacher.—Male Secondary, Amelia Miller, teacher.—Female Secondary, Agnes Wilson, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Bessie B. Shanaman, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Mary M. Rice, teacher.—Male Primary, Mary M. Rowe, teacher.—Female Primary, Esther Geissenhainer, teacher. Girls in white dresses and caps, trimmed in national colors, carrying silk parasols in national colors; boys in white caps and blouses and dark trousers, belts in national colors, carrying United States flags.

NINTH DIVISION.

Harry H. Fichthorn, colonel in command, and Charles Deem, lieutenant-colonel.

Poplar Street Building; total in line, 218.—Male Adv. Sec., Annie M. Huebner, teacher.—Male Secondary, Mrs. Emma C. Noll, teacher.—Female Secondary, Kate Eckert, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Emily Jones and Annie E. Acker, teachers.—Female Adv. Prim., Agnes S. DeHart, teacher.—Male Primary, Alice Aulenbach, teacher.—Female Primary, Melissa M. Howell, teacher. Girls in white dresses and caps

trimmed in national colors; boys in white blouses and caps, dark trousers, brown leggings with ties and trimmings in national colors.

St. Paul's Parochial School. Boys, total in line, 284; Willie Rehr, colonel; John Maurer, lieutenant-colonel.—1st Class, Erasmus Duppius, teacher.—2nd Class, Sister Concordia, teacher.—3rd Class, Sister Eveline, teacher.—4th Class, Sister Emmerana, teacher.—5th Class, Sister Donatiana, teacher. Girls, total in line, 260; Josephine Braun, colonel; Lena Heere, lieutenant-colonel.—1st Class, Sister Baptista, teacher.—2nd Class, Sister Reinolda, teacher.—3rd Class, Sister Ludmille, teacher.—4th Class, Sister Seraphina, teacher.—5th Class, Sister Francis de Chantal, teacher. Girls in white with large bow on left shoulder in national colors, Tam O'Shanter hats trimmed with national emblems, carrying Chinese parasols with loops of national colors. Boys in white blouses, black trousers with white stripes, white caps and canes with national colors; and each boy had a large letter on his breast, showing the word St. Paul's in every platoon of 8.

Phillippi Building; total in line, 24; William Roberts, Major. Female Grammar, Mary Yohn, teacher.—Male Grammar, Emma M. German, teacher. Girls in dark skirts, white waists and sailor hats, trimmed with class colors in orange and blue. Boys in white shirts and caps and dark trousers, trimmed with class colors, violet and white.

H. S. Eckert Building; total in line, 154. Frank Paff and Edward Seiforth, colonels; William Kelly, lieutenant-colonel. Female Adv. Sec., Annie M. Wunder, teacher.—Male Adv. Sec., Rebecca A. Evans, teacher.—Female Secondary, Mary M. Babb, teacher.—Male Secondary, Debbie Boone, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Clara J. Lott, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Clara Wonnberger, teacher.—Female Primary, Mrs. Lillie Ritter, teacher.—Male Primary, Dorothea Miller, teacher. Girls wore white dresses with belts and caps trimmed in national colors; boys wore dark trousers, white shirts, caps and belts trimmed in national colors.

TENTH DIVISION.

Harry A. Heckman in command.

Elm Street Building; total in line, 171. John R. Leary, colonel; Frederick Weiler, lieutenant-colonel; George Rogers, major; Leroy Yocom, sergeant-major.—Male grammar, Almira J. Wobensmith, teacher.—Mixed Secondary, Jennie A. Miller, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Amanda E. Stout, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Lou M. Liggett, teacher.—Female Primary, Kate Marsh, teacher.—Male Primary, Ida R. East, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Anna L. Gragg, teacher.—Male Primary, Clara E. Hyneman, teacher. Girls dressed in white with pink badges; boys of grammar school in dark suits and white caps and pink badges; and of primary schools, dark trousers and white waists and caps with pink badges.

Twelfth and Buttonwood Streets Building; total in line, 104. Warren Eshbach, colonel. Male Adv. Sec., Maggie C. O'Rourke, teacher.—Advanced Primary, Helen Sauerbier, teacher.—Male Primary, Katherine

Goodhart, teacher.—Female Primary, Lizzie Hutchinson, teacher. Girls wore white dresses, red, white and blue sashes, and white caps; boys, dark trousers, dark blue caps, and white shirts; Male Adv. Sec., red badges, and the others, light blue badges.

ELEVENTH DIVISION

E. Augustus Lohman in command.

John S. Richards Building, total in line, 202. Female Adv. Sec., Jane C. Wentzel, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Irene Spohn, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Maggie C. Murray, teacher.—Male Primary, Lizzie J. Levan, teacher.—Mixed Primary, Anna N. Levan, teacher.—Female Primary, Vinnie I. De Haven, teacher. Girls dressed in white, trimmed in national colors. Boys in white belts and caps in national colors.

St. Mary's Parochial School; total in line, 100; Roman Ratajcrak, colonel; Joseph Boginski, lieutenant-colonel; Sister Francisca, teacher. Girls wore white dresses, Tam O'Shanter hats with bands and sashes in national colors; boys' dark trousers, white waist and caps, with bands, ties and belts in national colors.

TWELFTH DIVISION.

Harry G. Johnson in command.

Tenth and Green Streets Building, No. 1; total in line, 125. Blanche Bowman, major; Female Advanced Secondary, Ida E. Rothenberger, teacher.—Female Secondary, Kate M. Evans, teacher.—Female Advanced Primary, Mary I. Fisher, teacher.—Female Primary, Alice Davis, teacher. Girls wore red, white and blue skirts, white Tam O'Shanter hats and Sesqui-Centennial button badges with red and white ribbons.

Tenth and Green Streets Building, No. 2; total in line, 79. Calvin Stuber, admiral. Male Adv. Sec., Hannah E. Fichthorn, teacher.—Male Secondary, Huldah Boyer, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Edith A. White, teacher.—Male Primary, Caroline E. Rees, teacher. Costumed as officers and sailors according to the full regulations of the United States Navy. For exact marching and fine appearance, this school was awarded a beautiful national flag.

Mulberry Street Building; total in line, 169; John Murray, major.—Mixed Secondary, Sallie M. Marsh, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Anna A. Rapp, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Margaret Reifsnyder, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Mary M. Hamer, teacher.—Female Primary, Kate M. Knabb, Blanche Maguire and Amanda De H. Woodward, teachers.—Male Primary, Mame Hemmig and Ruth Bryson, teachers. Girls wore white dresses and white Tam O'Shanter hats; boys, dark trousers, white blouses and caps; and all a mulberry leaf as an emblem.

THIRTEENTH DIVISION.

Jerome Seiders in command.

Tenth and Douglass Streets Building; total in line, 172.—Male Grammar, Kate E. Barton, teacher.—Mixed Adv. Prim., Naomi Kinsey, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Annie M. Shearer, teacher.—Male Adv.

Prim., Florence Fink, teacher.—Mixed Primary, Sarah Clark teacher.—Male Primary, Alice Hawk, teacher.—Female Primary, Annie Miller, Effie Hemmig, teachers. All dressed as Scotch Highlanders, with caps, kilts and sashes in shepherd's plaid. and presented a very fine appearance.

Twelfth and Greenwich Streets Building; total in line 196. Harry S Brown, colonel.—Female Adv. Sec., Emma C. Houder, teacher.—Mixed Secondary, Minnie Bollman, teacher.—Female Secondary, Edith R. Mengel, teacher.—Female Adv Prim., Rebecca Albright, teacher.—Female primary, Mary H. Brown, teacher —Male Adv. Prim., Anna L. Glase, teacher.—Mixed Primary, Eugenia Ermentrout, teacher.—Male Primary, Berta Jones, teacher. Girls and boys wore white suits and caps and red sashes.

FOURTEENTH DIVISION.

George Trievel in command.

Marion Street Building; total in line, 189. Jacob Rothenberger, colonel.—Female Secondary, Clara J. Kissinger, teacher.—Male Secondary, Mayflower Breeze, teacher —Female Adv. Prim., Kate M. Detweiler, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim, Lottie C. Haage, teacher —Primary, Laura Eisenhower, Martha Goodenough, Carrie N. From and Mary Fegely, teachers. Girls wore white dresses and caps with sashes and cap trimmings in national colors; boys, white waists, dark trousers, with scarfs and yachting caps in national colors.

Twelfth and Windsor Streets Building; total in line, 192; Thomas Gring, colonel.—Advanced Secondary, Annie J. H. Printz, teacher.—Female Secondary, Rosa McConnell, teacher.—Male Secondary, Annie Reaser, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Mabel M. Eby, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Emma R. Boone, teacher.—Male Primary, Helen Anthony, teacher.—Female Primary, Zettan Gordon, teacher.—Mixed Primary, Annie McDonough, teacher. Girls wore white dresses, blue sashes, white caps with scarlet bows on left side; boys, white waists, dark trousers, blue sashes, white caps decorated with small flags.

Tenth and Union Streets Building; total in line, 95. Mixed Adv. Prim, E. Caroline Schantz, teacher.—Mixed Primary, Katherine B. Eby, teacher.—Male Primary, Ida R. Kirn, teacher.—Female Primary, Anna S. Rankin, teacher. Girls in white dresses and caps, and sashes of national colors. Boys in white blouses, dark knee pants, regalias in national colors, white caps in national colors, and Fontleroy sashes.

Spring and Moss Streets Building; total in line, 107. H. W. Leinbach, colonel. - Grammar, Lottie C. Reiley, teacher.—Advanced Primary, Rosa Ernst, teacher.—Male Primary, Eva Rudisill, teacher.—Mixed Primary, Florence Clous, teacher. Girls in white dresses and caps and belts of national colors. Boys in white blouses and caps and ties in national colors.

Eleventh and Pike Streets Building; total in line, 80. C. E. Wells, colonel.—Male Adv. Sec., Meta Orff, teacher.—Mixed Adv. Prim., Ella Tice, teacher.—Mixed Primary, E. Geneva McDonough, teacher —Male

Primary, Bessie Mason, teacher. Girls in white dresses, Tam O'Shanter hats, and sashes in national colors; boys in dark trousers, white waists and caps and sashes in national colors.

FIFTEENTH DIVISION.

William K. Cotterel in command.

McKnight Building; total in line, 77. Albert Lippard, lieutenant-colonel.—Mixed Adv. Sec., Ida E. Ligget, teacher.—Secondary, Estella K. Reider, teacher,—Advanced Primary, Mary Summons, teacher.—Mixed Primary, Laura H. Mills, teacher. Girls in white dresses, blue sashes, red caps and badges; boys in dark trousers, white shirts, blue neck ties, red caps and badges. Howard Griesemer was dressed as "Uncle Sam."

Bechteltown Building; total in line, 88. David Faust, major; Secondary, Ida Hobson, teacher.—Advanced Primary, Elizabeth Edwards and Anna L. Heilig, teachers.—Primary, Margaret Cotterel and Sallie G. Goodman, teachers. Girls wore white dresses and Tam O'Shanter hats with bands and sashes in national colors; boys, dark trousers, white waists and caps, with red, white and blue belts and bands; and all Sesqui-Centennial button badges.

Spring and Church Streets Building; total in line, 58. Charles Laramy, major.—Female Grammar, Fannie E. Hobson, teacher.—Advanced Prim., Bertha Gordon, teacher.—Male Primary, Lizzie Miller, teacher.—Female Primary, Naomi Ermentrout, teacher. Girls in white dress and caps trimmed in national colors; boys, in dark trousers, white waist and caps trimmed in national colors.

SIXTEENTH DIVISION.

Charles H. Kiesling in command.

J. H. Jacobs' Building; total in line, 62. Harry Miller, colonel; Edw. Schmauder, lieutenant-colonel.—Advanced Secondary, Annie McMichael, teacher.—Advanced Primary, Lizzie Bingaman, teacher.—Primary, S. Emma Ziemer, teacher. Girls dressed in white; boys in dark trousers, white blouses and belts in red, white and blue; both wore white caps with red, white and blue bands.

Schuylkill Avenue Building, No. 1; total in line, 89. W. F. Slider, colonel; Jos. Matz, lieutenant-col.—Advanced Secondary, Annie E. Rettew, teacher.—Male Primary, Bessie Ziegler, teacher.—Male Advanced Primary, Carrie K. Jones, teacher.—Mixed Primary, Estella B. Keppelman, teacher. Girls and boys in regular dress with white hats.

Schuylkill Avenue Building No. 2; total in line, 80. Mixed Grammar, May C. Ermentrout, teacher.—Secondary, Catharine Young, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Carrie M. Rhoads, teacher.—Female Primary, Josephine Goodman, teacher. Pupils wore school dress and white hats.

SEVENTEENTH DIVISION.

David F. Printz in command.

Samuel Frees Building; total in line, 171. William H. Bellman, colonel. Male Secondary, Sallie D. Missimer, teacher.—Advanced

Primary, Annie I. Seiders, teacher.—Male Primary, Alma B. McMichael teacher.—Male Primary, Sallie A. Darrah, teacher.—Mixed Primary, Marie E. Gragg, teacher.—Female Primary, Estella L. Baker teacher.—Advanced Primary, Clara Jackson, teacher.—Female Adv. Prim., Nettie V. Hughes, teacher. Girls dressed in white, and white caps in national colors. Boys in white waists and caps trimmed in national colors. Male Secondary dressed in white hats and blouses and carried tin axes.

Seventeenth and Cotton Streets Building; total in line, 75; D. A. Snyder, colonel.—Female Adv. Prim., Mary S. Herbein, teacher.—Male Adv. Prim., Caroline E. Cressman, teacher.—Male Primary, Elizabeth Yorgey, teacher.—Female Primary, Florence Smith, teacher. Girls in white dresses and caps and red badges. Boys in white waists and caps, and belts in red, white and blue.

Perkiomen Avenue Building; total in line, 204; Charles Longacre, colonel.—Male Grammar, Fannie I. Hughes, teacher.—Female Grammar, Elberta Richards, teacher.—Male Adv. Sec., Mary J. Murray, teacher.—Mixed Adv. Sec., Clara L. Maxton, teacher.—Mixed Secondary, Mrs. Sallie B. Kutz, teacher.—Mixed Adv. Prim., Anna Clouser, teacher.—Male Primary, Kate Mitchell, teacher.—Female Primary, Annabel Ruth, teacher. Girls in white trimmed in national colors; and of grammar department carried Japanese parasols; boys of grammar grade wore dark trousers with white stripes, dark coats, white caps and ties in national colors, carrying canes, and of Advanced Secondary, dark trousers, with white stripes, white waists and caps and belts in national colors.

Sixteenth and Haak Streets Building; total in line, 84; Charles Wick, colonel.—Mixed Secondary, Emily F. Pollard, teacher.—Mixed Adv. Prim., Martha S. Bower, teacher.—Male Primary, Lulu Harrison, teacher.—Female Primary, Gertrude Gerhart, teacher. Girls in white; boys in white blouses and dark trousers; all wearing white hats; guards carrying guns.

Preparation for Parade.—For some weeks before the Sesqui-Centennial, the pupils of all the schools, from the lowest grade to the highest, were drilled in marching evolutions, and they showed great interest in the exercise. The movements were generally made on the streets in the vicinity of the respective buildings, and they attracted much attention throughout the city. The parents generally encouraged the undertaking, and willingly supplied the extra dress and decoration for the parade. When the day came, the community was naturally excited, and took unusual interest in the proposed public demonstration. The display proved a wonderful success and highly gratifying to everybody. It was admittedly the greatest and best of all the

displays. The numerous pages taken up in this volume in its presentation are entirely warranted, and the Committee on History expressed regret that the names of all pupils, who acted as officers of the respective companies, could not be made a part of this report.

Prize Flag.—Wm. Blough, representing the Blough Manufacturing Co., manufacturers of flags, of Harrisburg, having sold a large number of national flags at Reading for the Sesqui-Centennial, and appreciating the School Parade, offered a fine bunting flag, 12 by 18 feet, as a prize for the building whose pupils showed the highest number of points as to number, appearance and marching, and he selected four judges to award the prize. After the parade, the flag was awarded to the school from Tenth and Green Building. The averages of the several buildings were as follows:—

Boys' High School, 60; Girls' High School, 90; Girls' High School, second division, 75; Girls' High School, third division, 85; Seventh and Laurel, 75; Ninth and Spruce, 80; Franklin and Peach, 75; St. Peter's, 75; Sixth and Chestnut, 80; Chestnut and Carpenter, 90; Third and Franklin, 70; Hockley Lane, 80; Washington Street, 75; Buttonwood and Pear, 70; St. John's, 65; Fourth and Elm, 65; Poplar Street, 70; St. Paul's, 75; Tenth and Walnut, 85; Tenth and Washington, 70; Ninth and Elm, 87; Twelfth and Buttonwood, 80; Twelfth and Chestnut, 80; St. Mary's, 70; Tenth and Green, 90; Mulberry street, 85; Tenth and Douglass, 90; Twelfth and Greenwich, 70; Ninth and Marion, 75; Tenth and Union, 78; Spring and Moss, 80; Twelfth and Windsor, 90; Eleventh and Pike, 80; Church and Oley, 70; Spring and Church, 80; Pear and Exeter, 80; Schuylkill Avenue, 70; Thirteenth and Cotton, 80; Seventeenth and Cotton, 60; Perkiomen Avenue, 85; Sixteenth and Hawk, 75.

ILLUMINATION AND CONCERT.

Evening.—Pursuant to the official program, in respect to the illumination of private residences all over the city, the people made a general response by lighting up the stores of their respective buildings with gas, electricity, lamps and lanterns, thereby indicating a general co-operation on their part to make the anniversary a success. Penn street was crowded with people, including many strangers. The search lights on the Grand Opera House and Prison Tower were operated actively. And Carsonia Park was largely patronized.

In the evening, Penn Common was crowded with a multitude of men, women and children, residents of Reading and visiting strangers, who had assembled to attend the Grand Choral Con-

cert of 500 voices, accompanied by the Germania Band with 35 instruments, and Prof. Edward A. Berg, musical director. A platform was constructed along the embankment at the south end of the park circle, 80 feet wide and 45 feet deep, with 10 tiers of seats for the singers, and a front extension for the musical director and the band. It was handsomely decorated and festooned with national flags and bunting, and brilliantly lighted with five arc lights and numerous Japanese lanterns, producing a most pleasing effect. The program comprised sacred and patriotic selections, all of which were rendered in a manner that reflected the highest credit upon all the participants.

It was as follows:—

"My Country, 'tis of Thee,"	America
"The Heavens are Telling,"—(Creation)	Haydn
Overture—"Mirella," Germania Band	Gounod
Festival Hymn	Dudley Buck
"Let the Hills Resound"	B. Richards
Reading's Sesqui-Centennial Hymn	{ Thos. C Zimmerman Theo. I. Heizmann
March—"Stars and Stripes," Germania Band	Sousa
Hallelujah Chorus—(Messiah)	Handel
"To Thee, O Country"	J. Eichberg
Gloria in Excelsis—(Twelfth Mass)	Mozart
Caprice—"Lutzow's Wild Hunt," Germania Band	Weiss
Soldiers' Chorus—(Faust)	Gounod
"The Star Spangled Banner"	F. S. Key

The concert was opened promptly at 8 o'clock and continued for two hours without a single break or disturbance of any kind. The highest degree of enthusiasm prevailed, and this created mutual confidence that inspired extraordinary co-operation. Everbody was delighted and the public appreciation was manifested at the end of every piece, vocal and instrumental, by rapturous applause. This was particularly so when the last selection was sung. Each of the singers had concealed a small national flag, and just as the words, "Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there" were uttered, it was waved in triumph, thrilling the vast audience.

The rendition of the Sesqui-Centennial hymn, adopted by the Executive Committee, was also highly appreciated. The music was composed by Theodore I. Heizmann, and the hymn by Thos. C. Zimmerman, both of Reading, for the occasion, which were as follows:

SESQUI-CENTENNIAL HYMN.

All hail to Reading's name and fame !
 And let the welkin ring
 With song and shout and roundelay,
 As we together sing.
 And may our songs, with glad acclaim,
 To heav'n, like incense, rise,
 While glowing hearts in tones proclaim
 Her glory to the skies.

'Tis sev'n score years ago and ten
 Since this fair town was born;
 Its sweet young life must have exhaled
 A breath like rosy morn.
 So let us sing till yonder hills
 Send back the joyous song;
 Till echoing dales and rippling rills
 The gladsome sound prolong.

Let others tread life's stately halls,
 Where princely pleasures flow;
 Give us our homes, like jewels set
 In evening's sunset glow.
 And may our hearts, in swelling pride,
 Forget not those of old—
 The men of Reading's pristine days—
 Whose hearts have long grown cold.

Let all, therefore, with mingled voice,
 Repeat the glad refrain;
 Let civic pride, in flowing tide,
 Rejoice with might and main.
 And God, the Father of us all,
 With his protecting care,
 Will bless us while we praise in song
 Our city, bright and fair.

SESQUI-CENTENNIAL HYMN.

Maestoso. Soprano:

f Alto:

Tenor:

Bass:



Theo. S. Heigmann.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8TH.

Morning.—The Committee on Reception from 11 o'clock to 1 o'clock received a number of prominent men from the surrounding counties who filled representative positions, being stationed in the bar area of the Court room, and while this was done the Germania Band discoursed a fine program of instrumental music on the balcony of the Court House.

From 9 to 9.30 o'clock the Pompier Life Saving Corps of the Friendship Fire Co., gave a fine exhibition on the front of the Bright Hardware Store, Penn Square, which consisted of ladder drill, ascent of building, time drill, rope exercise, rescuing persons, and raising chemical hose. It was witnessed by a large number of persons and loudly applauded.

FIREMEN'S PARADE.

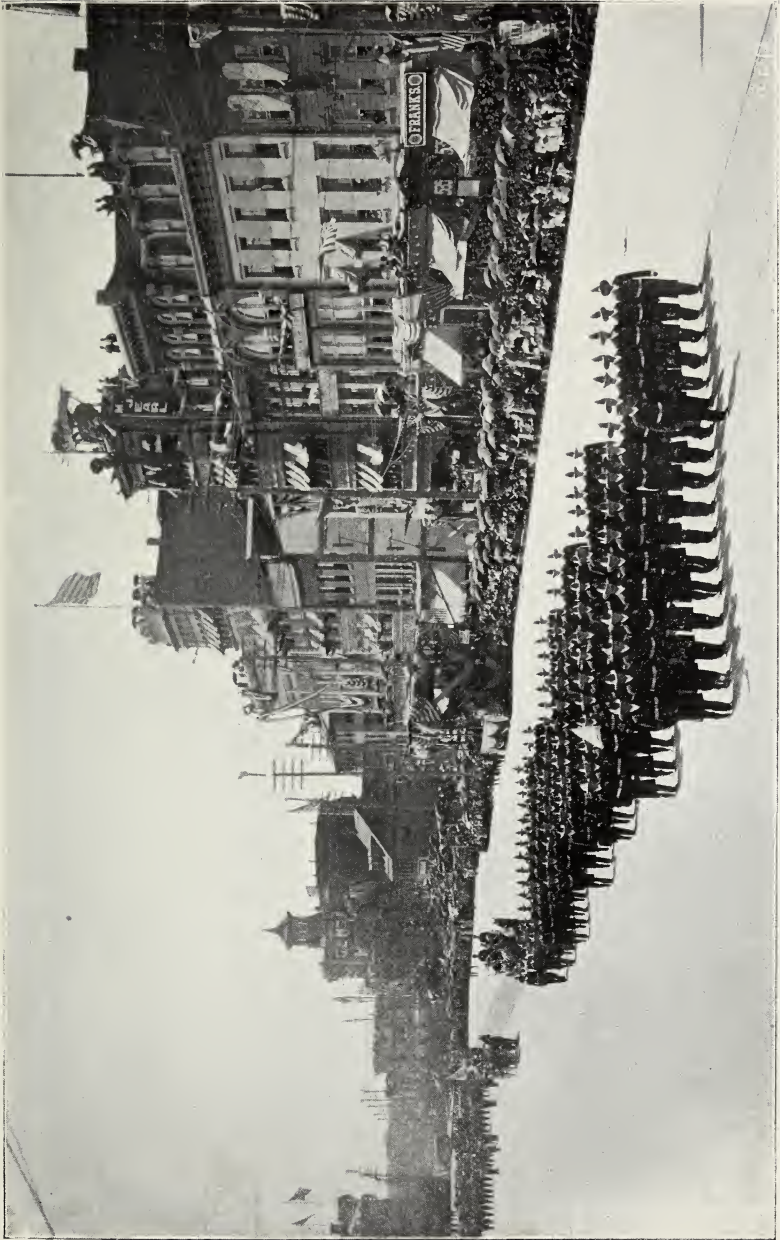
Afternoon.—The parade of the Volunteer Fire Department of Reading was held during the afternoon. The column started at 1.45 o'clock, and marched over the following route: Up Penn on south side from Second to Fifth, thence to Pine, countermarched to left to Penn, thence to Perkiomen avenue and Thirteenth. Before the end of the line had reached Penn square, a fire broke out at No. 518 on the square. Alarm box 37 was sounded, and immediately there was great confusion, and the parade was necessarily abandoned. The response was prompt and the firemen soon controlled the fire.

LINE OF PARADE.

Germania Band, 40 men.

Chief marshal, George W. Miller, Chief Engineer of the Reading fire department, riding a large white horse. Aids, Morris Weaver, assistant engineer, first district; Calvin Addis, assistant engineer, second district; Jefferson M. Keller, (Rainbow,) Fred W. Lauer, (Junior,) William R. McFarland, (Reading Hose,) Calvin Addis, (Neversink,) Harry Dease, (Friendship,) A. K. Deysher, (Liberty,) Edward Yeager, (Keystone,) Peter S. Holl, (Washington,) John Gallagher, (Hampden,) E. R. Youse, (Marion,) Charles Sellers, (Riverside,) Valentine Hain, (Schuylkill.)

The aids wore handsome silk badges, the gift of Mr. Miller, each bearing his picture, inscribed "Our Chief." Assistant engineer Weaver rode Chief Miller's fine horse "Lady," and following the aids was Chief Miller's fire trap drawn by his well known fire horse "Harry." The vehicle was decorated with flags.



FIREMEN'S PARADE, JUNE 8, 1898.

FIRST DIVISION.

Ringgold band, 40 men; Independence drum corps, 10 men.

Rainbow Fire Company, No. 1, George Kemp, captain, 80 men, wearing handsome blue uniforms carrying state and national flags. Seventy of the veteran members turned out, commanded by William Leitheiser. They wore their old equipments consisting of old style red fire hats and capes. Louis Eisenhower, the oldest member of the company was in line. He has been a member for half a century. The hose carriage and steam fire engine, handsomely decorated and drawn by heavy gray horses, were in line. Marshal, Andrew Bear; aids, Howard Bernhart, Arthur Brunner, Elmer Levan, George Roland.

Delegations of the Columbia Fire Company, No. 1, of Columbia, in charge of Chief Engineer Kinzer Hockey, 20 men; and the Volunteer Firemen's Association of Philadelphia, 25 men. in charge of William F. Totten, were in line as guests.

Allentown band of Allentown, 30 men. Junior Fire Company, No. 2, Ellis B. Moyer, captain, 130 men in line, wearing fawn overcoats, black hats and white shields. Ex-Chief Howard F. Boyer was in line. The engine and hose carriage were finely decorated. Marshal, John H. Root; aids, George H. Young, Harry T. VanReed, Louis Battenfeld, Joel Krick, Cyrus G. Schultz, William B. Koch, Joseph Saylor. Columbia Fire Company, No. 4, of Allentown, 70 men, wearing new uniforms, led by Pioneer band of Allentown.

SECOND DIVISION.

Sheridan band, 30 men; Reading Hose Company, 65 men, Benj. E. Houser, captain, wearing drab coats, firemen's hats, blue shirts, black ties and trousers. The engine and old ambulance were in line. Marshal, John E. Spears; aids, Henry Kieser, Frank Hahn, John F. Hahn.

Catasauqua band, 30 men; Good Will Fire Company, of Allentown, 51 uniformed men, commanded by C. H. Cohn, wearing blue uniforms, white helmets and buff gauntlet gloves.

Athletic band, 24 men; Neversink Fire Company, Oscar Neudoerffer, captain. 70 uniformed men, wearing gray coats, blue trousers, green hats and belts. Their apparatus was trimmed with flags and flowers. Marshal, F. C. Clemson; aid, John Devine.

Fairview band, 30 pieces; Fairview Fire Company, of Bethlehem, S. Charles Seckelman, captain, 80 men, wearing blue sack coats and caps. Delegations of Citizens' Fire Company, of Harrisburg, 12 men; South Penn Fire Company, of Philadelphia, 20 men; Liberty Fire Company, of Allentown, 12 men. Ex-Chief Robinson, of Wilmington, marched in line.

THIRD DIVISION.

Third Brigade band, of Pottsville, 40 men; Friendship Fire Company, 65 men, and apparatus; Edward F. Levan, marshal; aids, William Embree, John W. Morrison, Francis A. Eisenbise, George Ganter and

Thomas Bausher. Members wore light coats, blue caps and black trousers. Delegations of the fire departments of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and Elizabeth, N. J., were with them. Pompier fire corps of the Friendship Fire Company, 10 men, Ira C. Becker, captain. Darktown fire brigade of the Friendship company, hose cart, carriage and truck, 25 men, Samuel Levan, captain. The brigade created much amusement. Members were dressed in grotesque uniforms.

Steelton band, of Steelton, Pa., 40 pieces; Liberty Fire Co., 140 men in line, in uniform of blue coat, vest and trousers, white hat and belt. Charles Morris, captain. All presented a fine appearance. The engine and wagon were in line. Marshal, James E. Devine; aids, Thomas Devine, Wm. H. Smith, John Till, Peter Weidner, John Patton, Charles Graeff, Jacob Allgaier, Wm. B. Schaeffer.

FOURTH DIVISION

Liberty band, 25 men; Washington Hook and Ladder Fire Company, 80 men, uniform of light coat, red shirt and cap; Peter S. Holl, captain. Marshal, Edward Price; aids, Edwin Diener, William Quinter. Members had their new chemical engine, truck and hose carriage in line. A number of guests from Philadelphia, Pa., and Richmond, Va., accompanied them.

Perseverance band, of Lebanon, 28 men; Keystone Hook and Ladder Company, 40 men, in uniform of light gray coats, caps and dark trousers. Marshal, John Oschman; aid, John C. Krebs; captain, Theodore Kendall. Their entire apparatus was in line.

Peekskill Fire Company, of Peekskill, N. Y., 20 men, Edmund Gavin, captain; Fairmount Truck Company, of Norristown, 60 men, in citizens' dress.

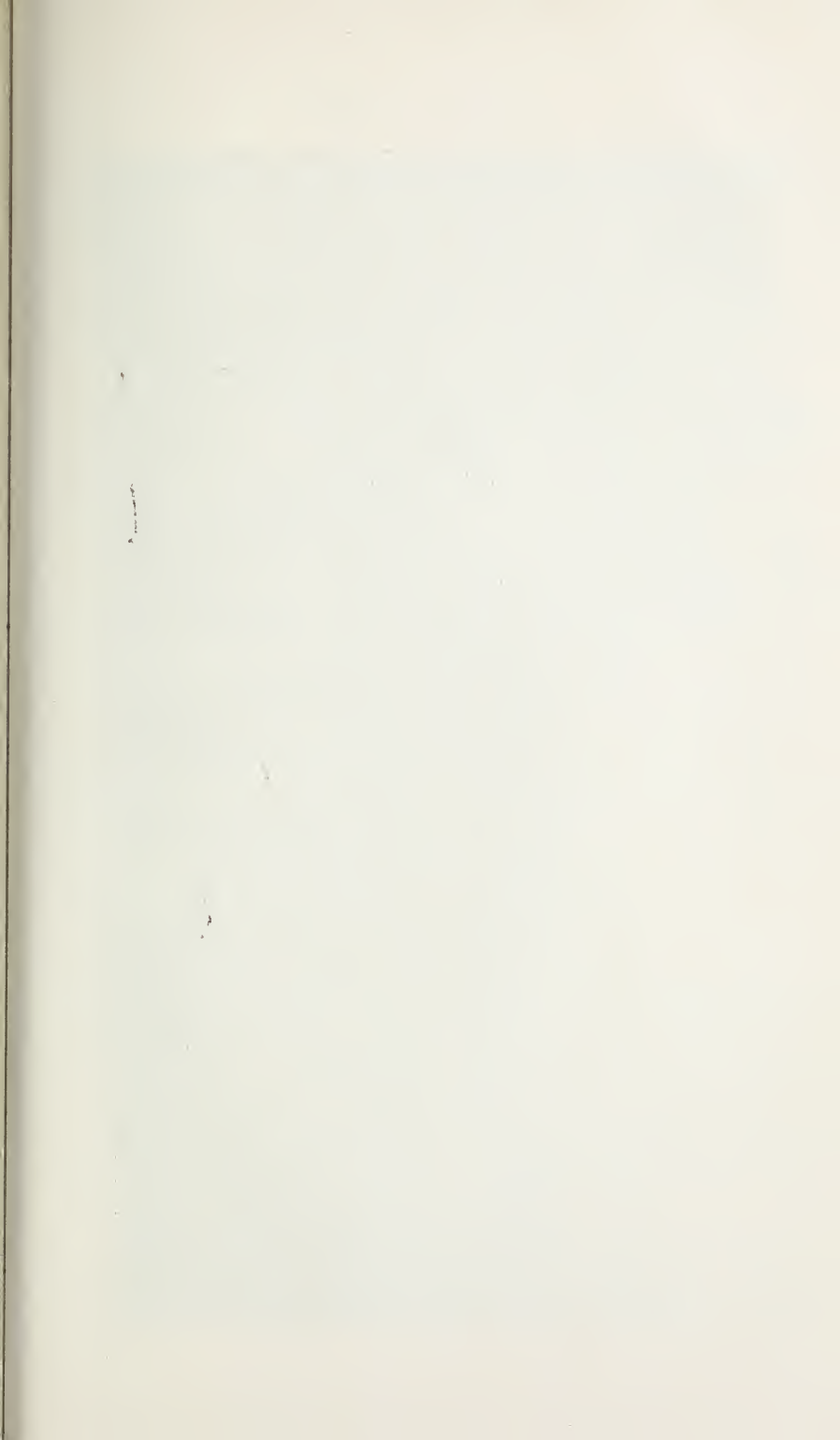
FIFTH DIVISION.

Althouse's band, of Shoemakersville, 20 men; Hampden Fire Company, 55 uniformed men, Samuel Bowers, captain. Marshal, John Gallagher; aids, Albert Smith, Arch Reber, Edward Marquett. Members were attired in drab uniforms. Engine was drawn by four black horses and decorated with flowers. Winona band, of Shillington, 20 men; Marion Fire Company, 40 men. Marshal, George Trievel; aids, Ellsworth Zwoyer, Harry Seiders, Howard Hemmig; captain, E. R. Youse. Members wore drab uniforms. Their guests included delegations from the Niagara Fire Company, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and the Paxton Fire Company, of Harrisburg. Carriage and engine in line, beautifully decorated.

SIXTH DIVISION.

Riverside band, 15 men; Riverside Fire Company, 25 uniformed men. Marshal, John Phillips; aid, J. R. Schwenk; captain, John S. Weber. Gray uniform was worn. The apparatus was in line.

Sinking Spring cornet band, 20 men; Schuylkill Fire Company, 52 men in blue uniforms and apparatus. Marshal, Edward Yoe; aid, John Hiester; captain, Joseph Anthony. Guests of the company included 35





FIRE ON PENN SQUARE, JUNE 8, 1898.

uniformed members of the Goodwill Hook and Ladder Company, of Atlantic City, N. J.; Charles Matthews was marshal. They had their fire patrol drawn by two roan horses, led by the Eagle Drum Corps, 15 men. They wore a blue uniform.

Fire on Penn Square.—At 2.45 o'clock, when the head of the column was marching along Penn Common and everybody was complimenting the grand appearance of the firemen from Penn square along the entire line, suddenly, and to the amazement of the many thousands of people who were stationed on the sidewalks, an alarm of fire was sounded and a general feeling of joy and congratulation was turned into surprise and fear. Immediately the entire line was broken up, and the vigilant and capable firemen directed their apparatus towards the locality of the alarm. The number of the box was ascertained in a few moments, and then they moved swiftly to Penn square. Their dress and decorations were of no consequence to them. Duty moved them by a common impulse. Their readiness and promptness won general admiration, and demonstrated in a positive manner the value and efficiency of the Reading Volunteer Fire Department. The Chief Engineer and his assistants were at the burning building in a short time and a number of the engines got to work to control the very threatening conflagration. Words can not describe the scene. The excitement on Penn square presented a most impressive sight. A dense cloud of smoke that forced its way out of the front part of the store-room at No. 518, where Oppenheim & Gehring were carrying on a cheap variety store, started the excitement and caused the alarm of fire to be given, and from that store-room the smoke and flames extended into Keffer's queensware store, and Kline, Eppihimer & Co.'s dry goods store on the east. Before six o'clock the fire alarm tap was sounded, indicating that the fire was out, and the fears of everybody at once subsided. The damage amounted to about \$60,000. Fortunately the air was comparatively calm, otherwise the damages might have reached several hundred thousand dollars, as many people feared for a time they would be.

Evening.—During the evening there was no special feature, but general enjoyment pervaded throughout the city. Penn street was crowded from Third to Eleventh, and so was Penn Common. The great attractions were the electric illumination

of the street by about 2,000 lights, stretched around the Square and across the thoroughfare below Fourth and above Sixth, at many places. The search lights exhibited from the top of the Prison tower and the Grand Opera House, the Eddy kites raised above Penn Common, and the numerous Japanese lanterns in the Common and Reservoir, nearly 1,000, the latter not so brilliant as the former but nevertheless very interesting and attractive.

Waynesboro Delegation.—The Committee who had in charge the celebration of the centennial of Waynesboro, Pa., in 1897, by invitation of the Executive Committee, visited Reading upon the occasion of its Sesqui-Centennial. They arrived Wednesday evening, and the Executive Committee, led by the Ringgold Band, received them at the P. & R. R. Union station, and escorted them to the Mansion House. The following persons comprised the delegation:—J. H. Stoner, president; W. T. Omwake, vice president; J. J. Miller, treasurer; E. W. Gardner, secretary; A. W. Stocker, D. M. Good, Jr., W. J. C. Jacobs, I. E. Yost, J. H. Deardoff, J. B. Raby, A. H. Stricker, G. A. Anderson, J. C. Criswell, J. M. Wolff, T. B. Smith, J. R. Ruthrauff, Samuel Haeflich and George B. Beaver. On Thursday they called at the headquarters and registered their names, and during the day rode over the mountain railways, observed the Industrial Parade and the general decoration of the City, and left in the evening much pleased with the trip.

THURSDAY, JUNE 9TH.

Morning.—At the Court House, from 11 o'clock to 1 o'clock, the Reception Committee received a number of prominent individuals from different parts of the State, including judges, national and state officials. The Governor of Pennsylvania had accepted the invitation to visit Reading to-day, but he was obliged to send his regrets on account of important engagements in connection with supplying and forwarding troops from the State for the war with Spain. The President of the United States was obliged to decline the invitation owing to the war and many important matters that required his constant presence at Washington.

INDUSTRIAL PARADE.

Afternoon.—This was "Industrial Day," and great preparations had been made for many weeks by numerous manufactur-



INDUSTRIAL PARADE, JUNE 9, 1898.



ers, merchants and business men for its proper observance. The parade took place in the afternoon from 2 to 5 o'clock, and persons along the route expressed great admiration over the different displays, more especially that of Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart who made the greatest exhibition, expending more than several thousand dollars in its preparation.

The route of the parade was up Penn street, from Fourth to Eleventh, thence along Perkiomen avenue to Franklin street, thence to Tenth, to Penn, to Fifth, thence along east side of Fifth to Pine and countermarch on west side to Franklin, thence to Fourth, to Penn square and dismissed. The Executive Committee halted on south side of Penn square above Fifth, and reviewed the parade as it passed.

LINE OF PARADE.

Chief Marshal, John E. Harbster.

Chief of Staff, James R. Kenney; aids, Matthan Harbster, H. C. England, A. Thalheimer, W. Harry Orr, Geo. W. Beard, W. H. Mohn, John G. Mohn, Charles L. Hoff, H. M. Sternberg, Clarence H. Sem-bower, Wm. H. Shick, Thos. D. Bausher, John R. Miller, Albert A. Gery, Charles S. Prizer, Harry Wilhelm, Fred. W. Lauer, J. S. Klees, Hiram K. Getz, Henry J. Zabel.

Executive Committee and invited guests in carriages, preceded by the Germania band and drum corps.

FIRST DIVISION.

The first division comprised the displays and employees of three of the most prominent establishments at Reading. Marshal, Isaac G. Treat; aids, E. E. Moore, John Kissinger, G. N. Jacobi, Geo. Schaffer, John D. Van Reed, W. B. Gross, Jos. Roeser, Calvin Boyer.

Reading Hardware Company had two floats, 1047 men and boys, and four bands of music in line, one float representing "Progress" with a small bell showing how the 50 employees were called to work when they started in 1852, and a large steam whistle to call their present employees, 1200 in number, and the other representing a screw machine in operation.

Penn Hardware Co. had 500 men and boys in line with a band of music and large float bearing an inscription with the autograph of Wm. Penn, in the following words:—"I am much surprised at the progress Reading has made since 1748. But I am still more astonished at the growth of the Penn Hardware Co., named after me."

Reading Stove Works, Orr, Painter & Co., had a large decorated float with heating stoves and ranges, and a donkey cart with a stove and two employees dressed as negroes. They had in line 200 men and boys, and Sinking Spring Band.

As the division passed along, square after square, numerous expres-

sions of surprise were made at the great number of persons employed by these three prosperous enterprises, and they presented the status of industrial affairs at Reading in 1898 in a most impressive manner. The first part of the division wore dark trousers, white coats and caps; the second, white caps, sweaters and trousers with canes; and the third, ordinary dress, attracting much attention, and constituting a fine introduction to the parade.

SECOND DIVISION.

The second division was the Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart Department Stores, and constituted the longest and most expensive division and most attractive display in the parade, the floats being the finest ever seen at Reading in a public demonstration. The marshal of the division was Jacob F. Custer, and his aids were Mahlon Seidel, Rolandus R. Snyder, Solon D. Bausher, John A. Burkey, E. Martin Neiswanger, and Harry E. Eisenberg. Then followed the Ringgold band, with 60 musicians; the United States flag, Reading flag, and D. P. & S. banner; 6 carriages with the members of the firm, Josiah Dives and George M. Pomeroy, their cashier and confidential clerk for many years, John E. Lewis, and their representatives in the syndicate and the department stores at Harrisburg, Pottsville, Pottstown and Altoona; 75 male employees, marching in sections of 4 abreast with banners between each section; 4 carriages and 4 Tally-Ho coaches with 100 employees; 6 floats; 6 mounted aids; Cadet band of 30 men; 54 stock boys (9 platoons, 6 abreast.) drawing a fine chariot occupied by Alice Miller, daughter of Albert R. Miller, chief floor walker of the firm; and ending the division with 50 cash boys. The whole was over half a mile in length, and far surpassed everything attempted by any firm or individual in the history of parades in Reading. The floats, briefly described, were as follows:—1st float represented the "History of Reading" and consisted of four Corinthian columns with connecting capitals in white and gold, and a duplex revolving globe, 6 feet in diameter, on which were painted eight different views in the history of the city.—2nd float had a similar design with a revolving globe 5 feet in diameter on which was painted the Reading store, and the four branch department stores.—3rd float consisted of a large square revolving stretcher with paintings on both sides, contrasting the store when the firm started in 1875 with the present extensive establishment in 1898—4th float presented a large painting of the U. S. Ship Maine.—5th float was designed to attract the notice of the children particularly, consisting of an electric dancing doll operated by a strong battery underneath, and six large wax dolls, all handsomely dressed.—6th float was composed of bicycles, wheels and paraphernalia about the entire frame work, beautifully decorated with U. S. flags and shields, and within the area were 5 riders on bicycles, 3 girls and 2 boys. The designs, paintings, decorations and arrangement of the several displays were highly artistic and very attractive, winning great applause along the entire route.

THIRD DIVISION.

William H. Luden, marshal of the division.

The third division included a number of attractive displays, as follows:

Gately & Britton, three walking letters, G. & B., representing the initials of the installment firm, being transparencies supported by boys; various kinds of furniture made and carried in the same manner; an engine, with emitting smoke and steam, propelled by concealed bicycle riders and accompanied by an engineer and fireman, with a freight car attached; and a float with a disappearing gun which threw exploding shells that scattered advertising matter. This display, requiring 42 men and boys, was unique, attracted great attention and excited much comment and applause.

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. was represented by the local agent S. S. Davies in a carriage decorated with flags, followed by 40 solicitors in ordinary dress with white canvas hats, canes and souvenir badges.

United States Express Co. had its superior wagon in line, which was exhibited at the World's Fair, drawn by four heavy gray horses and decorated with United States flags.

A. G. Christman, float with washing machines.

A. K. Deysher, furniture dealer, displayed a float topped by a canopy in pink and blue, with a fine parlor suit.

Henry Schofer, baker, had a float drawn by four white horses, on which were seated 25 employees who distributed on the way 15,000 small loaves of bread tied up in white paper; also a delivery wagon from which were given 3500 fans, one side being embellished with the picture of a little girl carrying a loaf of bread and the other with the Sesqui-Centennial Hymn.

Hercules Paper Bag Co. displayed a large wagon drawn by four horses and loaded with paper bags of various sizes.

Jacob V. R. Hunter displayed a beautifully painted wagon decorated with the national flag, on which were placed a fine kitchen range and cellar hot-air furnace.

Wm. H. Luden's candy factory was represented by two decorated floats, one showing candy rolling and from which stick candy was thrown to the crowds on the sidewalks, and the other a furnace with candy-makers at work, pulling chewing candy, cutting it up and distributing it along the route.

Lessig & Bro., farming implements, float with 2 reapers.

Charles Auer, flour dealer, large decorated wagon, with sheaf of wheat and 13 little girls dressed in national colors.

Boyer & Co. float with storekeepers' supplies.

Penn Wagon Co., large patent coal dumping wagon, elevated 14 feet, and decorated.

G. A. Haage, plumber, two floats, one with hot-water boiler, and the other with fine gas fixtures, handsomely decorated.

J. B. Ganter, stove dealer, &c., two floats, one with a large Othello range, and the other with a Mt. Penn perfect hot-air heater.

Adams Express Co., superior delivery wagon weighing 4800 pounds, with dimensions 15 ft. long, 5 ft. wide, and 7 ft. high, the top, 10 ft. 9 in. from the ground, and capacity almost equal to a freight car. It was drawn by four fine bay horses and sent from Philadelphia expressly for the parade.

David Rosenbaum, clothier, large float with canopy decorated with smilax, drawn by four gray horses and occupied by employees represented as measuring and fitting clothing.

Leinbach & Bro., clothiers, three wagons in line; one, a band wagon, drawn by four horses with 18 employees who wore high silk hats and carried red, white and blue umbrellas; and the others were delivery wagons, attractively decorated. The horses were covered with cloth blankets, embroidered with "L. & B.," and "Leinbach."

Sellers, Medlar & Bachman, clothiers, displayed a barouche, drawn by four horses, and occupied by four employees who held a fine banner upright with the inscription: "Sellers, Medlar & Bachman, the pioneer clothing house in Reading, established in 1844." And a bugler was seated with the driver.

Hoff & Bro., hardware dealers, 3 wagons with 12 employees and old horse "Dick," in service for 20 years.

Common Sense Shoe Store, 2 decorated floats with 25 employees, displaying shoes.

Hoskin & Giles, florists, exhibited a beautiful float, decorated with palms, flowers and greens.

FOURTH DIVISION.

William Hutchison, marshal of the division; aids, Geo. Graeff, Harry J. Ball, Wm. O. Weidenhammer.

The fourth division was made up as follows:

Reading Bolt & Nut Works, J. H. Sternberg & Son, proprietors. Employees of this great establishment, numbering 547, marched in the parade. They wore white hats and coats, and dark trousers, and carried canes; and each was decorated with a badge, consisting of a nickel-plated nut or bolt. They presented a fine appearance and constituted an impressive introduction of this division. They marched under the lead of the Perseverance band of Lebanon, with 29 musicians.

Mt. Penn Stove Works displayed a large float which had four kitchen ranges and a large cannon; and this was followed by a number of dealers at Reading who handle the heaters and ranges of the firm, with wagons adorned with national flags and colors, greens, &c.

Fehr & O'Rourke, coal dealers, exhibited 3 coal wagons, 2 large wagons loaded with bituminous coal, and 3 garbage wagons such as are used for removing city garbage. The firm took part in the parade, riding in a carriage.

FIFTH DIVISION.

Albert F. Smith, marshal of the division; aids, Custer S. Ammon, Reuben Sindel, W. Brueckman, Jas. S. Ammon, Geo. Straub, W. Miller, W. H. Matz.

Liberty Band of Reading, with 25 men, followed by the Retail Grocers' Association, 72 members on horseback, with officers, A. S. Deeter, president, and E. J. Morris, secretary, in a carriage.

B. & J. Saylor, grocers, decorated float with provisions, 2 delivery wagons, and 12 employees.

Grand Union Tea Co., a float, consisting of a large tea pot, nearly 6 feet high, 10 wagons tastefully decorated and 25 employees.

Bon Ton Milliners, two floats, with 30 employees trimming hats, under canopies, with decorations in purple and white, and national colors; also a tandem team, drawing the firm's delivery wagon, and boy on horse back with banner.

C. W. Edwards, piano dealer, fine, large, improved, covered, latest style wagon for delivering pianos, painted green with large mirrors on sides and front.

Louis Heilbron, furniture dealer, three floats; one representing a bedroom suit with white-enameled furniture and brass trimmings, and canopy of red, white and blue; second, a delivery wagon loaded with carpets and rugs; and the third, employees at upholstery.

H. L. Johnson & Son, dentists, float with band of music from Freemansville.

F. F. Seidel, undertaker, with six hearses, showing styles at different periods:—1748, 1835, 1850, 1865, 1880, and 1898. The first was an old Conestoga wagon, drawn by four horses.

Hunter Henninger, undertaker, fine white embalming wagon, with trimmings in national colors.

Conrad Kaltenbach, brickmaker, float, showing operation on a brick yard with 30 men at work.

Charles W. Pennock, grain dealer, large wagon, loaded with grain, drawn by 3 horses.

Reading Installment Co., float with furniture, decorated.

John E. Steinel, brush manufacturer, wagon with brushes of all kinds, samples distributed on the route.

Jefferson M. Keller, ice dealer, float with large cake of ice, 4 by 8 feet, with wreath of roses and national flag frozen in the interior, and 10 delivery wagons, each drawn by a pair of heavy black horses. The proprietor and his brother-in-law W. Benton Stoltz, clerk, led this display in a carriage.

Lauer Brewing Co., decorated coach with John M. Killian, collector, Wm. Heberle, superintendent, and Harry J. Borell, clerk; 2 large floats, one representing King Gambrinus and Uncle Sam, and the other Wil-

liam Penn and Indians; and a wagon showing the different signs of the company.

P. Barbey & Son, float representing Fort Barbey, being a large beer cask with Uncle Sam on top, and Admirals Dewey and Sampson in front; a carriage with superintendent and clerks; large beer wagon loaded with kegs, and another with employees, decorated with flags.

Reading Brewing Co., a large float comprising a hogshead with bags of hops and malt.

J. C. Stocker, brewer, 4-horse wagon loaded with quarter barrels.

Roerich & Raab, brewers, 4-horse wagon loaded with half-barrels, and another with malt and hops, illustrating brewing in the old style.

F. X. Blessing, coffee roaster, riding in a carriage, with an employee. Alex. Koch riding after on horse-back.

A. N. Kissinger & Son, flour and grain, 2 decorated wagons, loaded with flour.

Kurtz & Mayers, wholesale grocers, 3 wagons, one with flour, another with jars of pickels, &c, and the third with employees.

S. H. Parke & Co., of Philadelphia, dealers in coffee, were represented, in line with a large delivery wagon, throwing out samples of coffee along the route.

SIXTH DIVISION.

Charles W. Shick, marshal of division; aids, Henry G. Hintz, Wm. F. Remppis, Clifford F. Klees.

This division included the following:

Joseph S. Bachman, baker, two gaily decorated delivery wagons, from which small buns were distributed; preceded by a drum corps.

Wm. S. Miller, baker, large float with employees dressed in white, distributing buns.

U. S. Bakery, two decorated wagons from which cakes and buns were thrown.

Union Transfer Co., 10 cabs, 2 busses and 2 express wagons, with 120 children from charitable institutions, decorated with national colors and streamers.

Postal Cab service, 5 new coupes and 1 old style, decorated.

Charles Haas, local express, 6 decorated wagons.

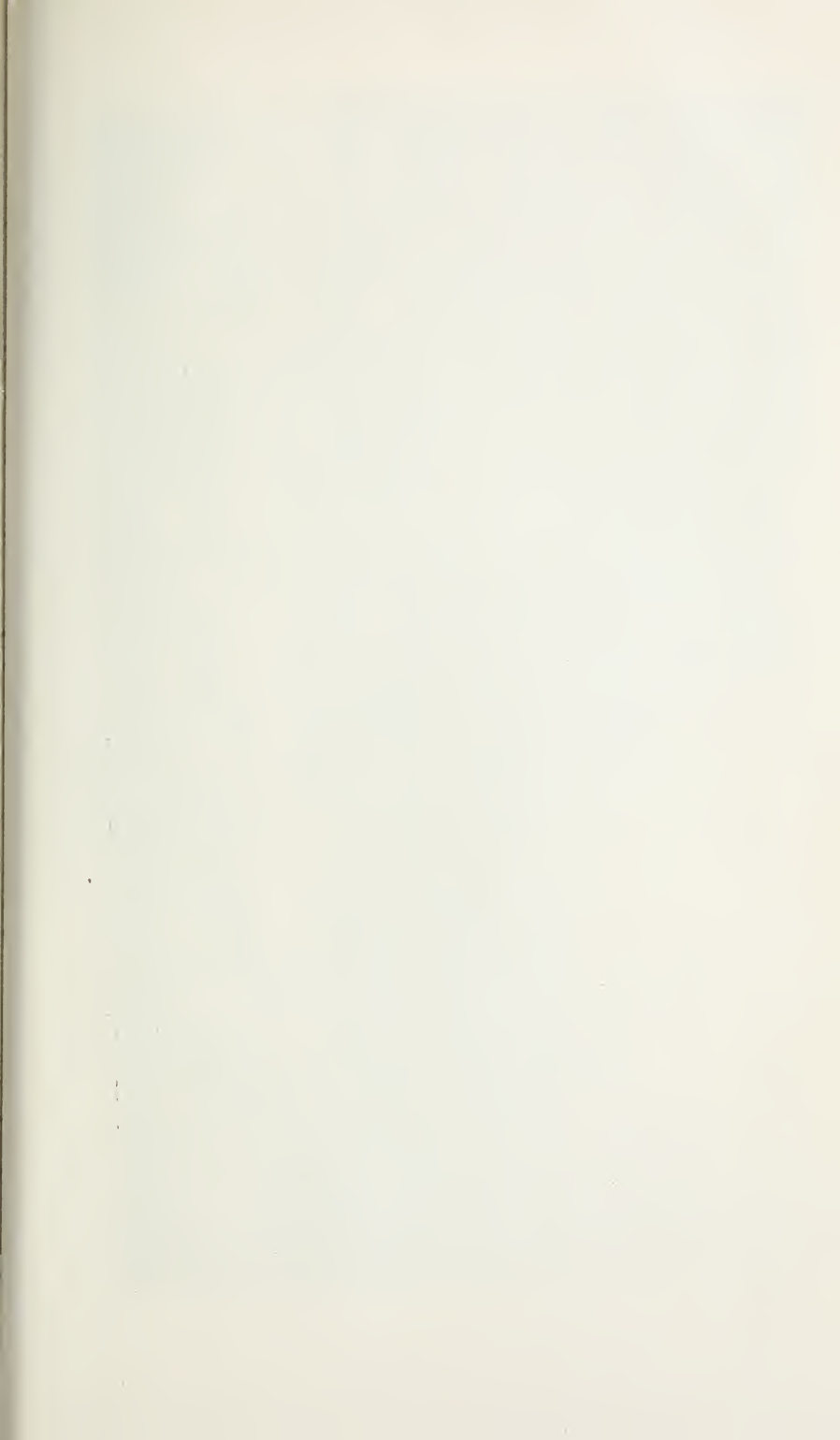
David L. Reber, local express, 5 decorated wagons.

Seibert & Co., 2 large wagons, drawn by four horses, with portable, upright engines and supplies

George W. Biehl, carriage manufacturer, decorated carriage driven by son Albert.

Sebastian Blimline, carriage manufacturer, carriage, decorated.

Acme Manufacturing Co., 2 floats, one consisting of bicycle operated by endless chain, and the other of bicycles. 100 employees were in line, in ordinary dress, carrying national flags.





CAVALCADE AND CORSO PARADE, JUNE 10, 1898.

Peoples' Laundry, delivery wagon decorated.

Boss Knitting Machine Works, float with knitting machines, and 36 employees. The manager, James L. Eck, rode in a carriage.

Jos. O. Flatt & Co., brush-makers, gaily decorated wagon; on the route they distributed 2,000 small hat brushes as souvenirs.

Reading Bottling Works, 2 wagons; followed by numerous single teams and business wagons, distributing advertisements.

Evening.—In the evening a concert was given on Penn square in front of the Mansion House by the Germania Band, from 8 to 9.30 o'clock, the selections being as follows:—

March, "Sesqui-Centennial"	Althouse
Overture, "William Tell"	Rossini
Gavotte, "Royal"	Moses
Selection, "Lady Slavey"	Kerker
Potpourri, "El Capitan"	Sousa
Selection, "Fackeltanz No. 4"	Meyerbeer
March, "The Mystic Shrine"	Althouse

All the pieces were admirably rendered and won the repeated applause of the great crowd of persons that had assembled. And this was done notwithstanding the prevailing excitement and the moving masses of people to and fro on both side-walks and in the street. The square under such conditions, together with the brilliant illumination and superb decorations, presented an indescribable picture and won unmeasured praise for the Executive Committee, especially from the many visiting strangers.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10TH.

Morning.—From 11 to 1 o'clock, at the Court House, the Reception Committee received a number of railroad officials, prominent among them being the President of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Co., Joseph S. Harris. The Germania Band rendered a program of music on the balcony.

CAVALCADE AND CORSO PARADE.

Afternoon.—During the afternoon, the Cavalcade and Corso Parade was held, starting at two o'clock and going over the following route:—On Penn square from Fourth to Sixth, to Washington, to Eighth, to Penn, to Ninth, to Chestnut, to Eleventh, to Franklin, to Perkiomen Avenue, to Tenth, to Robeson, to Ninth, to Washington, to Second, to Penn, to Fourth, to Laurel, to Fifth, to Penn square, countermarch, and dismissed.

LINE OF PARADE.

Wellington G. Woods, Chief Marshal, and staff, James M. Ammon, Harvey F. Heinly, George A. Peters, Henry B. Hintz.

Germania band on a large wagon with canopy beautifully decorated in national colors, and drawn by eight heavy gray horses.

Executive Committee in carriages. The officers occupied the first carriage, a barouche, drawn by four horses, the other members in carriages drawn by two horses, all decorated in national and city colors.

FIRST DIVISION.

Marshal, E. A. Auerbach; aids, Ben. F. Austrian and Chas. H. Schick.

Tally-Ho, drawn by four gray horses, occupied by Fred. H. Witman, Samuel N. Potteiger, William McIlvain, William Clymer, William Scott, Edward E. Stetson, H. P. Keiser, Albert R. Bright, William Seyfert, George J. Gross.

Tally-Ho, the finest and largest in line, drawn by five gray horses and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Samuel D. Dibert and daughter Blanche, and the following invited guests: George W. Ziegler, Esq., and wife, and William H. Denlinger, wife and son, of Phillipsburg, Pa.; E. Clayton Poorman, wife and daughter Myra, of Tyrone, Pa.; Mrs. J. W. Stofer and daughter Catharine, of Middletown, Pa.; Charles H. Armour and wife, J. Harry Leippe and wife, George W. Krick and wife, Charles M. Evans and wife, Mrs. Eugene P. Stofer and Henry W. Snyder, of Reading. A fine silk national flag was waved from the top in recognition of the applause given the party while passing over the route.

Tally-Ho, drawn by four gray horses, occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Walter G. Roland, son and daughter, and invited guests, Misses Lillie and Rose Kessler and Esther Wells, and James S. Roland and wife.

Tandem of fine brown horses in a new trap, beautifully decorated, by John M. Archer and wife, accompanied by Miss Reilly, of Washington, D. C., and Joseph Connard, of Reading.

Tandem of spirited sorrel horses in a decorated cart by Miss Caroline Archer, accompanied by her sister, Miss Mary Archer.

George M. Britton, wife and daughters, Leah and Mary, trap, with sorrels, driven tandem, white harness, decorated with wreaths and roses.

John Barbey, fine decorated trap and two horses, occupied by three daughters, Ida, Rose and Mary, and coachman.

J. H. Sternbergh, wife and three sons, two seated carriage, decorated with flowers.

John F. Boyer, double carriage, with bay horses, decorated with plumes and bunting, occupied by four children of Morris Boyer and driver.

William H. Luden, two handsome carriages, drawn by sorrel horses, one a trotting buggy occupied by Mr. Luden and wife, the other, a two-seated carriage occupied by Julia Ritter, Grace Frame and Miss Dewees and driver.

Calvin K. Whitner, Chairman Committee on History, drag, with wheels decorated with daisies, drawn by two superior black horses, occupied by son George S. Whitner and William K. Eckert.

Louis Heilbron, two-seated carriage and pair of roan horses, accompanied by daughter Rhea and niece Regina Heilbron, of Philadelphia, and driver.

Milton H. Schnader, trap, decorated with national flag and city colors, and pair of bay horses, accompanied by J. G. Xander, of Lebanon.

Howard F. Boyer, two-seated carriage and pair of black horses, with very attractive white harness, accompanied by Otto D. Noack, veterinary surgeon.

Henry C. England, trap, decorated with flowers and bunting, drawn by bay horses, accompanied by daughter Mary and Miss Helen Strohecker.

Charles J. Hoff, trap and bay horses, accompanied by E. W. James, G. W. Biehl and Wm. Quick, latter from Phoenixville.

Augustus S. Flicker, two-seated carriage, decorated with flags and bunting, and pair of bays, accompanied by W. Van Reed, Silas Ermentrout, and Levi Weitzenkorn.

Edward Luigard, two-seated carriage with pair of gray horses, accompanied by Fred. Neudœrffer and driver.

Francis F. Seidel, two-seated carriage and pair of black horses, accompanied by wife, daughter Florence and Ella E. Runyeon.

George F. Lance, two-seated carriage and pair of bay horses, accompanied by Mrs. Lance, daughter Mrs. Buch, Ruth Kuehner and Eva Collins.

SECOND DIVISION.

Marshal, Harry W. Crooks; aids, Elmer W. Dietrich and William B. Eckert.

Athletic Band in a large wagon, decorated, drawn by four horses.

The division was composed of single teams, as follows:

Wm. L. Graul and father, with flag presented to him in 1888 by the 188th Reg't Penna. Vols., in top buggy.

John B. Raser, Chairman of Committee on Former Residents, Rugby trap, decorated, accompanied by Dr. G. Prentice Raser, of Philadelphia, and Dr. Wm. Weis, of New York, with driver.

J. C. Lindsey, of Philadelphia, trap, decorated, with driver.

Daniel J. Hendel and son Stanley in top buggy with rubber tires.

C. W. Edwards, and dog, in trotting buggy with rubber tires.

John G. Niethammer with bicycle sulky drawn by trotter "Major N."

D. Wellington Dietrich, accompanied by Solomon Brumbach, in ball bearing buggy; and another buggy occupied by Abraham Klopp with Eugene Copenhaver, from Washington, D. C.

C. A. Dougherty, superintendent of Union Transfer Co., had three cabs, with drivers, decorated with red, white and blue trimmings.

Harry W. Crooks, buggy occupied by Henry and Thomas Heckman, employees.

Bert G. Bubp and Harry Ahrens, top buggy.

Harry Shick and wife, top buggy.

Robert H. Reith and pet dog "Uno," in decorated top buggy.

Wm. M. Fulton's carriage occupied by Mrs. Fulton and daughter Jennie and Mrs. R. Weber and daughters Lottie and Elsie.

Joseph Z. Rowe and family in decorated two-seated carriage.

John E. Steinel and family in decorated two-seated carriage.

John D. Missimer, phaeton, decorated, occupied by wife and daughter Grace.

Joseph S. Becker, trotting buggy with rubber tires.

Dr Daniel G. Long, phaeton, occupied by daughter Ella and Miss Elizabeth Mertz.

James M. Miller, buggy, accompanied by daughters Beatrice and Mabel.

Dr. M. L. Bertolette, top buggy, and Wm. B. Albright.

Edward Ganter, buggy, and A. J. Gless, of Newark, N. J.

George B. Albright, buggy, and Philip Rufe.

Dr. H. D. Stryker and wife, drag decorated.

George W. Biehl, cart occupied by son Albert and Edwin Sharp; and phaeton occupied by daughter Bessie and Amy Newlin of Pottstown.

Jacob A. Strohecker, buggy, and George Hertwig.

Abner S. Deysler, two decorated buggies, one driven by himself and the other by John Sharp.

Wm. B. Angstadt, phaeton, and daughter Jennie.

Hunter Eckert, trap, with driver.

D. P. Schlott, buggy, with little girl Marguerite Geiger.

Emanuel Thalheimer, cart, and Allen Levan, foreman of box factory.

Dr. John N. Becker, carriage, and family.

Charles E. Schrader, two-seated carriage, decorated and bay horse, accompanied by daughter Annie, Mamie Clark of Pittsburgh, and Leon Wittich, of Reading

Wm. M. Schrader, top buggy, decorated and bay horse, accompanied by Morris Gehry.

Franklin Ganter, two-seated carriage, occupied by daughters Mamie and Carrie Ganter, Loretta Reisinger and Nettie Kroener.

C. M. Deem, carriage, and grand-daughter, Sarah Foreman.

G. F. Steckline, carriage, and three children.

THIRD DIVISION.

Marshal, Jerome I. Kline; aids, Charles I. Angstadt, John E. Harbster and J. G. L. Brownwell.

Athletic band with 20 musicians in a decorated wagon drawn by four horses.

The third division comprised the cavalcade, with the following in the line riding four abreast:

Custer Ammon, Irvin S. Brant, David Delcamp. H. S. Eckel, Conrad Fisher, E. E. Freehafer, William Fritz, C. Q. Guldin, John E. Harbster, Hunter Henninger, Frank Hartman, Frank Hain, F. S. Kelley, John Kutz, Charles Kerchoff, Franklin Lash, L. D. Lichty, Frank Maurer, John E. Nunnemacher, J. R. Painter, W. S. Phillips, Conrad Peters, Thomas Roberts, D. L. Reber, Paul A. Rick, Charles Smith, E. B. Slichter, John A. Savage, Herbert Seidel, Calvin Seidel, William Weitzel, J. G. Willits.

Erwin J. Rutan impersonated a female character, mounted on a fine bay horse, with M. Luther Rutan as an escort. The disguise was perfect and much applause was given along the entire route.

The division ended with two road carts, driven by Frank Bitting and David M. Hinkle; and a bicycle sulky drawn by John G. Niethammer's black trotter with attendant as driver, decorated with red ribbon and floral wreath.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Marshal, Harry C. Boyer; aids, Calvin Obold and Herbert Miller.

Drum corps of Germania band in large decorated wagon drawn by four horses.

This division comprised pony carts, beautifully decorated, driven by children, and the following were in line, who attracted much attention: Guy Britton, Edgar High, Sallie B. Rowe, Charles Sartorius, Frank Selak, Mabel Shick, F. L. Smith and Jacob K. Swenk.

BICYCLE RACES.

At three o'clock in the afternoon, the race meet under the auspices of the Associated Cycle Clubs opened at the Three-Mile House driving park.

Officers:—The officials of the meet were: referee, Charles G. Willson; starter, Geo. Eckert; timers, Wm. Fulmer, Harry Crecelius, Morris Reber and W. Storm Miller; judges, Frank Heilman, A. J. Geiger, J. G. Neubling, Wm. Schmucker, G. W. Graeff, Neff H. Rhode; clerks of course, G. J. Althouse, Harry Swartz, John Martin, H. Eberhart, Heber Ermentrout, Robert Heilman, George Wittich, P. G. Herbine; announcer, P. J. Moyer; umpires, Benj. Weil, William Anderson, Marshall H. Huey, J. B. Snyder.

Penn Wheelmen Race Committee:—W. Storm Miller, chairman; Frank Heilman, secretary; Harry Crecelius, Daniel Y. Klapp, George Eckert, A. J. Geiger.

Electric Wheelmen Race Committee:—George Graeff, chairman; E. G. Herbine, secretary; Neff H. Rhode, treasurer; Wm. S. Ribble, H. T. Eberhart.

American Wheelmen Race Committee:—Howard J. Borkert, chairman; Harry E. High, secretary; Neff H. Rhode, Glenson J. Althouse, Harry Labe.

Race Events:—First event was a one-mile novice race. It was run in three heats, resulting as follows:

First heat:—Jacob R. Eagle, of Pottstown, 1st; Harry E. Bentz, West Reading, 2nd; Wm. M. Ruth, pacemaker, 3rd. Time, 2 minutes, 31 seconds.

Second heat:—A. Freese, Reading, 1st; L. A. Gerrett, Reading, 2nd; Walter A. Russell, pacemaker, 3rd. Time, 2.40.

Final heat:—L. A. Gerrett, 1st; A. Freese, 2nd; Jacob R. Eagle, 3rd, Time. 2.38.

After the final heat of the novice race, Harry Greenwood, of the bicycle department of John Wanamaker, Philadelphia, rode a mile on a motor cycle with a flying start in 3.50.

Second event—One mile open, resulting as follows:

First heat:—Harry Hamilton, Harrisburg, 1st; Charles W. Krick, Reading, 2nd; E. Thoma, pacemaker, 3rd. Time, 2.26.

Second heat:—William T. McMichael, Berwick, 1st; Craig G. Stewart, Harrisburg, 2nd; James H. Swartz, pacemaker, 3d. Time, 2.24.

Final heat:—McMichael, 1st; Stewart, 2nd; Swartz, 3rd. Time. 2.24.

Third event:—Boys under 16 years of age, 1 mile, resulting as follows: Charles E. Haas, 1st; Charles E. Heim, 2nd; Claude Tigh, 3rd. Time, 2.41.

Fourth event—Club race, one mile. The entries were: James H. Swartz, Jandcn Miller, Clinton Earl, of Penn Wheelmen; Wm. M. Ruth, David Mercer, and Marshall H. Huey, of American Wheelmen; William Murskey, of Century Wheelmen. The race was awarded to the team representing the Penn Wheelmen, who crossed the tape in the following order: Swartz, Earl, and Miller. Time, 2.34.

Fifth event.—Half mile open, resulting as follows:

First heat:—Charles W. Krick, 1st; Harry Hamilton, 2nd; J. Oscar Barto, pacemaker, 3rd. Time, 1.09.

Second heat.—William T. McMichael, 1st; James H. Swartz, 2nd; and Craig G. Stewart, pacemaker, 3rd. Time, 1.11.

Final heat.—Stewart, 1st; McMichael, 2nd; and Krick, 3rd. Time, 1.08 1-5.

Sixth event.—Two-mile lap-race, resulting as follows:

Charles W. Krick, 1st, 13 points; Craig G. Stewart, 2nd, 8 points; and D. R. Hart, Reading, 3rd, 4 points. Time, 5.04. The race was awarded to Krick.

Seventh event —Messenger boys' race, one mile, resulting as follows: M. Palm, 1st; Connell Wertz, 2nd; Francis Mitchell, 3rd. Time 2.50.

Eighth event.—Two-mile handicap, resulting as follows:

James H. Swartz, 125 yards, 1st; E. Thoma, 225 yards, 2nd; J. Oscar Barto, 125 yards, 3rd; Harry Hamilton, 150 yards, 4th. Time. 4.34.

Prizes.—The prizes were as follows:

One-mile novice—First prize, gold medal, \$15; second prize, silver medal, \$10.

One-mile open—First prize, diamond, \$35; second prize, diamond, \$20; third prize, six bottles of wine, fine pipe and hat.

One-mile boys' race—First prize, silver water pitcher; second prize, pants pattern and inkstand; third prize, bicycle lamp.

Half-mile open—First prize, diamond, \$25; second prize, diamond, \$15; third prize, three bottles wine and fine parlor lamp.

One-mile team, city clubs, three to enter, who never won a first prize, fine reclining chair, costing \$25.

Two-mile lap—First prize, diamond, \$35; second prize, diamond, \$20; third prize, hat, card case, pipe, shoes; fourth prize, pipe and bottle of whiskey.

One-mile, messenger boys—First prize, medal, \$10; second prize, pump, cyclometer, pedals and three dozen bottles oil; third prize, cycle hat, bell and three dozen bottles oil.

Two-mile handicap—First prize, diamond, \$35; second prize, clock, shoes, hat, cane and 100 cigars; third prize, pair tires; fourth prize, lamp, music stand, witch hazel and cyclometer.

The attendance was about 400, the number being so small on account of the great parade at Reading at the same time. The track was not in good condition. The Lewis Cadet band furnished the music for the occasion.

BICYCLE PARADE.

Evening.—In the evening the Flambeau Bicycle Parade was held. It started at 8 o'clock, proceeding over the following route: On Penn street from Second to Eleventh, out Perkiomen avenue to Chestnut, countermarch to Penn square, then down Fifth to Pine, countermarch to Franklin, to Fourth, to Penn square where a grand circle was formed.

LINE OF PARADE.

Chief of Police, Jacob-Etzel and First Serg't, Charles L. Kenderdine, in a carriage; and the Executive Committee also in carriages.

Chief Marshal, Charles G. Willson, (President of Penn Wheelmen); aids, Glenson J. Althouse, (President of American Wheelmen); John Bryson, (President of Electric Wheelmen); Weston W. Westley, (President of South End Wheelmen.)

FIRST DIVISION.

Penn Wheelmen, 115 men, of which 76 were dressed as William Penn. George Eckert, captain; William Fichthorn, 1st lieutenant; Howard Deem, 2nd lieutenant; Harry Landis and Edward Darlington, buglers;

James Rambo, color-bearer. Each member had his wheel tastefully decorated in orange and black, the club colors, (which were also the city colors.) This club was awarded the first prize.

Electric Wheelmen, 68 men in line. C. C. Ludwig, captain; George Graeff, E. Herbine, Joseph Neff, lieutenants; Harry Reber, color-bearer. The members were in citizen's dress but their wheels were finely decorated in the colors of their club, orange and maroon.

American Wheelmen, 60 men in line. Howard J. Borkert, captain; Harry E. High, 1st lieutenant; George W. Wertley, 2nd lieutenant; Charles Bowman, bugler; Harry Labe, color-bearer. Their bicycles were decorated in the club colors, yellow and blue, and also in national colors. The members wore white hats, blue coats and white duck trousers.

South End Wheelmen, with 20 men in line. Henry Seiders, captain; Walter Schmehl and Charles Dougherty, lieutenants; Samuel Clark, flag-bearer; John Graham and Arthur Westley, buglers. Their wheels were artistically decorated.

SECOND DIVISION.

The second division consisted of the Boys' Brigade and floats. Daniel Y. Klapp, marshal, and William Harper, assistant.

At the head of the division were 25 members of Co. E. Boys' Brigade in charge of Capt. Harry G. Johnson. All wore uniforms and carried their rifles over their shoulders while riding bicycles. They were awarded the second prize.

Ten floats were next in order, those worthy of especial mention having been the following:

John German and William Good, tandem, canopy of roses, ribbons, lanterns and national flags. They were awarded the 5th prize.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kramm, of Reading, and Miss Ethel Geise, a sister of Mrs. Kramm, of Philadelphia, float, a bower of roses. They were given the sixth prize.

Float representing the battleship "Maine," by Thomas Evans and Thomas King.

The last two floats were furnished by the Reading Standard Manufacturing Co.

THIRD DIVISION.

The third division comprised wheelmen from three large industrial establishments of the city. John E. Harbster, marshal, and George E. Tyson, William Adams and Samuel Richards, aids.

The Reading Hardware Co. had 97 men in line. All wore dark trousers, white coats and caps and yellow badges. They were awarded the eighth prize.

The Reading Standard Mant'g Co., about 80 men in line, some with bicycle suits and others with citizen's dress.

The Relay Bicycle Co. had a float in line representing a ship. It was built on a tandem bicycle which was ridden by William and Edward Hafer, employees.

FOURTH DIVISION.

In the fourth division were wheelmen of all social organizations who were not members of the clubs mentioned in the first division. Joseph Martin, marshal, and Neff H. Rhode, aid.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert R. Miller, and two children, Alice and Fisher, on single wheels.

"Sasparill Club," in charge of John M. Archer, with 15 in line.

Dora Reber and Helda Ludwig, single bicycles nicely decorated with laurel and flags.

Maria Black impersonated the Goddess of Liberty.

Wm. R. Pike and wife, in stage costume as Romeo and Juliet.

In this division, there were altogether 250 in line, including women on single bicycles and tandems, numbering 30.

FIFTH DIVISION.

All the comical riders in masks and grotesque costumes, and the unattached riders, were in the Fifth division, numbering about 300.

John Neubling, marshal, and Thomas De Moss, William Hain, Christian J. Geist, Harry Brouch and William Buel, aids.

The following riders are worthy of special mention:

Clyde Eisenberg, a five year old boy, dressed as Uncle Sam.

Martha Smith and Lillie Miller, riding single wheels and wearing white duck suits.

Joseph Grimes, the heaviest bicycle rider in the United States while on a visit to Reading, weighing 543 pounds, rode in the parade over part of the route.

John Hoffman and Frederick Rollman, impersonated Uncle Sam, riding a tandem, made of cheese boxes.

James Labe, as bowery girl; John Briner, as colored girl; Arthur Shade, as a tramp; Milton H. Knabb, as yellow kid.

Harry Reich, as a colored sport; Frederick Link, as circuit rider; W. O. Large, as Admiral Dewey; Ammon High, as Greater Reading.

Wm. Miller, as clown; Harvey Hohl and Harry Seyfert, as Indians; Walter Young, as "Flying Dutchman;" Albert Heath, as tramp, on old style bicycle.

J. O. Brant, as a farmer on old Columbia bicycle, awarded the seventh prize; Wm. A. Tobias rode on a wheelbarrow, with two large wheels attached to the handles.

Wm. Corbett, as a cow boy; J. Frank Lutz and Charles Heffelfinger, canopy of Japanese lanterns; Ammon High, as Little Red Riding Hood.

John Kupp and Frank McCarthy, as old southern couple; Wm. A. Wentzel, as an ape; Howard Rhoda, as a Dutchman.

William Kerns, as a fireman; Arthur Westley, as a jockey; Aaron and Melvin Adams, as coons; Frank Heffner and Irvin Rhode, as dudes;

Wm. Hough, as trilby and her big feet, riding a tandem with J. Boyd Mishler.

Paper wheelmen, Thomas Wiston, captain; Wm. H. Peter, 1st lieut.; Joseph Cook, 2nd lieut.; John Lorah, color bearer; 12 members in line, all wearing comical costumes.

Prizes Awarded.—The Committee on Bicycle Parade, Charles G. Willson, chairman, decided to give the following prizes:

1. Silver loving cup to regular organized bicycle club of the city having the best costumed and largest number of men in line.
2. Large lamp to out-of-town bicycle club, having best costumed and largest number of men in line.
3. Men's best costumed and decorated single wheel, cyclist's revolver.
4. Women's best costumed and decorated single wheel, riding boots, and gloves.
5. Best costumed and decorated tandem, pair of pictures.
6. Tandem or single wheels, best couple, pair of vases.
7. Most comical effect, women or men, onyx table.
8. Largest number of men, industrial establishment, 200 cigars.

The following Committee were selected as judges to award the prizes: Thomas T. Eckert, Jr. of New York, K. L. Rymen, of Newark, and John D. Mishler. They were stationed in the centre of Penn square and the riders rode by in a circle. After having viewed the parade, they retired to the Mansion House, and after some deliberation, announced the following winners:

First prize to Penn Wheelmen.

Second prize to Co. E, Boys' Brigade, for fine appearance, no out-of-town club having been in line.

Third prize to A. Frothingham MacLean, impersonating a page in time of Henry VIII.

Fourth prize to Mrs. Henry T. Eberhardt, impersonating American heroine.

Fifth prize to William Good and John German, canopy of roses.

Sixth prize to Mr. and Mrs. Harry H. Kramm, bower of roses.

Seventh prize to John O. Brandt, as tramp farmer on an old high wheel.

Eighth prize to Reading Hardware Co., having had 97 in line.

Concert in Penn Common.—The Germania band gave a delightful concert during the evening from 8 to 10 o'clock in Penn Common. They were stationed on the choral platform. The program comprised classical selections, and patriotic and popular airs. Several thousand persons were in attendance, notwithstanding the Bicycle Parade, all of whom appreciated the entertainment very highly.

The Committee on Fireworks gave a second display of fireworks from the same place occupied on Monday evening, con-

sisting of rockets and bombs. The search lights were in operation and the Eddy kites flying to add interest to the occasion.

REGATTA AND SERENATA.

SATURDAY, JUNE 11TH.

The Regatta and Serenata, under the auspices of the Reading Boat Club, were held on Saturday afternoon from 1.30 to 5.30 o'clock. The course was on the Schuylkill, and extended for one mile from "Pigeon Rock" up the river to the Bingaman street bridge. The Committee on Regatta, M. Brayton McKnight, chairman, had made the necessary arrangements for this concluding entertainment of Reading's Sesqui-Centennial and it was a complete success. Both banks of the river at and below the bridge were crowded with people, and also the bridge. The total number present was estimated at near 10,000. The weather was ideal for the occasion. The Germania band and Independence Drum and Flute corps furnished a fine program of music, having been stationed in the grove on the west bank of the river opposite the club's boat-house.

Officers.—The officers of the Regatta were as follows: Referee, Walter G. Roland; starter, J. Edward Wanner; judge, Wm C. Hinkley; timers, Norman B. Wamsher and Arthur Fink; judge of swimming race, Hans Goetz. The referee, starter and timers were on the steam tug "Cat Fish," kindly provided by the Canal Department of the Reading Railway Co., and the judge on the west bank of the river at the finish.

Events.—First event, a single shell one-mile race; contestants, Harry B. Steffe and Henry Jucker. After rowing in the course together for about 100 yards, Steffe's rigging broke, causing him to upset. He was promptly rescued by a small steam launch and taken to the club house. Jucker rowed over the remainder of the course alone, and was loudly applauded at the finish.

Second event, a swimming race across the river at the club house, in which there were the following seven entries: Robert Haggerty, Jacob Snyder, George Williams, William R. Schaeffer, W. Kilmer, H. Ould, and T. Greeman. Schaeffer was 1st, in 1.43½; Ould, 2nd, in 1.50; Haggerty, 3rd.

Third event, double shell one-mile race, with two entries, Fred. Fichthorn and Henry Jucker comprising one of the crews, Harry B. Steffe and Harry Babb the other. The former won by 100 yards. Time, 7.31.

Fourth event, tub race across the river and return, with the following seven entries: Charles Burkey, Frank Fry, Wm. Weitzel, John Ziemer, Wm. Reedy, James DeLoy, and Blain Jones, all boys. The race was won by Weitzel, closely followed by Jones. This contest afforded much merriment for the multitude of people assembled there.

Fifth event, four-oared shell race, one-mile, in which there were two entries, one crew comprising Fred Fichthorn, Irvin Herbein, Bert Shanaman and Charles Moore; the other Harry Brandt, Wm. Longacre, Douglass Anderson and Harry Babb. The former won the race. Time, 7.35 3-5. A sliding seat of the latter crew broke down shortly after the start, which virtually threw them out of the race and prevented what would otherwise have been a close contest.

Sixth event, batteau race, one fourth mile, in which there were eight contestants: Victor S. Garman, Chester Burnish, Benton Reamer, Albert Griffith, Edward Mills, Charles Burke, Harry Flowers and Wayne S. Flicker. The race was won by Mills. Time, 6 minutes.

Seventh event, handicap steamboat race two and a quarter miles scratch, with the following five entries: Atlantic, by John A. Hiester; Curlew, by Joseph Waid; Monitor, by Bert Shanaman; Maine, by Amos Kissinger; and Trilby, by Harry Phillippi. The Atlantic was at the scratch (near the breast of the Little Dam,) and Trilby was given the limit, about 1000 feet. The Trilby reached the goal first; time, 14.35. But it was immediately contested by Capt. Hiester and the others, alleging that the Trilby was started before the signal. After due deliberation, the referee awarded the race to the Monitor.

Prizes—The following prizes were offered and awarded: To the winners of the single-shell, double-scutt, and four-oared shell races, handsome individual medals of gold, enameled in the colors of the city of Reading and of the Reading Boat Club, and suitably inscribed; for the swimming race, 1st prize, gold enameled badge, and 2d prize, silver enameled badge; for the batteau and tub races, cash money prizes; and for the steamboat race, a silk pennant with suitable inscription thereon.

Conclusion.—The Executive Committee were present in the grove. At the conclusion of the Regatta, the President, James P. Sellers, called upon the youngest member of the Committee, Harvey F. Heinley, Esq., to make a few closing remarks, who responded as follows:

“On behalf of the Executive Committee, at the request of their president, I now declare the festivities of Jubilee Week at an end. This week has certainly been the greatest in the history of our city, and it is fitting that its celebration should be brought to a close on the banks of this noble Schuylkill, which has flowed unceasingly from the founding of the city, and under these great trees which perhaps witnessed its birth.

“It is a matter of great congratulation to our Committee that the Sesqui-Centennial has been successful beyond all expectation. The work, begun by men chosen from all the walks of life, has been harmoniously and zealously carried on to a successful end. The perfect weather, the lack of accident, the general and wholesome enjoyment have been favors which point to a Divine sanction of our work. Each day's celebration has been simply a new cause for wonder at the resources and blessings enjoyed by our city.

“We have to thank the people for their hearty co-operation; the public, both resident and visiting, for the excellent order maintained during the week. And now we turn our faces toward the future, expressing the hope that at the celebration of the Bi-Centennial of our city’s history, many of us may meet under auspices equally pleasant and inspiring.”

Entertainment of Distinguished Visitors.—It is just to mention in connection with the celebration of the Sesqui-Centennial that many visiting friends and strangers were hospitably entertained by numerous families, and also by institutions of different kinds. The most prominent in this respect were Mr. and Mrs. George F. Baer, who displayed a remarkable spirit of liberality in welcoming distinguished visitors at their superb home “Hawthorne,” and affording them unusual opportunities of seeing and knowing the social, industrial and municipal affairs of Reading, and of realizing its growth, wealth and importance as a promising centre of population.

Escutcheon and Flag.—The Committee on Colors designed an escutcheon and a flag for the Sesqui-Centennial. After much discussion they were adopted by the Executive Committee, and afterward by City Councils but by resolution simply.

Explanation of Escutcheon:—The black shield and the gold band combine the colors (black and gold) of the old German empire, from whence came the large majority of the city. The Arms of the Penn family, displayed in the centre of the shield, represent the Province of Pennsylvania in which they settled, as well as the Proprietors of Reading and those who laid it out. The bee-hive indicates the busy manufacturing centre which the city has now become, and the salamander, in the midst of a flame, shows that its business and its prosperity are principally dependent upon the furnaces and fires of every description in which its iron is worked.



Supporters:—The figures supporting the shield on either side are emblematical of Labor, which has always been the pride

and support of Reading and the source of its prosperity. Thor and Vulcan have been selected to represent Labor, in this instance, because of their association with fire and metals.

Crest:—The staff of Mercury is used for a crest because it is the symbol of constant activity and indicates the continuous growth of the city as well as the increasing nature of its vast and widespreading business. The staff issues from a mural crown, the crown representing a city, and shows the station which Reading occupies in the Commonwealth and Union.

Motto:—The motto, which means "Labor profits with the help of God," is intended to show that, after all, the entire welfare of Reading ever rests with God, and depends upon the manner in which its citizens trust in Him.

City Flag:—For a standard, or flag, the Coat of Arms, given as above, is placed in the centre of a field divided into equal parts by three stripes, red, white and blue, the colors of the Union, to show that the city of Reading has grown from its past history into a part of the United States of America, in the formation, upbuilding and preservation of which its citizens have taken a part so prominent and honorable at all times and under every circumstance.

Reading Artillerists in Camp.—The Executive Committee had also named a Committee on Military, for which Samuel Willits, captain of the Reading Artillerists, was selected and appointed as chairman, and he was making arrangements for a grand military demonstration in connection with the Civic Parade, when the United States made a declaration of war against Spain, and he tendered the services of his company to the national government, which were accepted. The further work of the Committee was therefore discontinued and that part of the parade reluctantly abandoned.

However, when the day came, Sunday, June 5th, for opening the Sesqui-Centennial, though far from home and rendezvoused in camp at Chickamauga, Ga., preparing for engaging in the Spanish war in Cuba, the members of the company assembled in their mess tent to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Reading in due form, while their families and friends were assembled in churches at home, and the colonel, major, adjutant and chaplain of their regiment (Fourth) honored the meet-

ing with their presence. The ceremonies began by singing the hymn "America," with prayer by the chaplain; then "Star Spangled Banner" was sung and the colonel (D. Brainard Case) addressed the company with appropriate remarks, highly eulogistic of the history of Reading, particularly the patriotic spirit of its people in every emergency. Additional remarks were made by the adjutant, chaplain and Captain Willits, after which the meeting was concluded with prayer and singing the doxology.

On June 9th, the Executive Committee sent the following telegram to Capt. Willits at Chickamauga:—

"In the glory of the jubilee week, the Executive Committee in behalf of the city send you and your gallant company heartfelt greetings, as well as to all Berks county soldiers who represent the patriotism and devotion of our city in its Sesqui-Centennial. We regret your absence, but in fighting humanity's battles we know that you will not return until the foe is vanquished."

GREETINGS FROM READING, ENGLAND.

In August, 1897, the Deputy Mayor of Reading, England, forwarded to Hon. Jacob Weidel, Mayor of Reading, Pa., an illustrated newspaper and other printed matter, showing the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee. In November following, Mayor Weidel addressed a letter to him informing him of the proposed celebration of the Sesqui-Centennial of Reading, Pa., and extended an invitation to the Mayor to be present on that occasion, and, with the letter, sent by mail a number of publications on local history, which comprised the following, all having been compiled by the compiler of this Sesqui-Centennial History of Reading:—"Political Hand Book of Berks County," (1883); "School History of Berks County," (1889); "Berks County in the Revolution," (1894); Centennial History of Lodge No. 62, F. & A. M., (1894); "Life and Times of Conrad Weiser," (1893); and "Historical Sketch of Reading Artillerists," (1896).

During the Jubilee Week, on June 8, 1898, Mayor Weidel received the following cablegram from the Hon. W. Berkeley Monck, Mayor of Reading, England:—

"The Mayor of Reading, England, on behalf of the inhabitants, sends greetings and kindest wishes for present and future success and prosperity to Reading, Penna."

Mayor Weidel sent the following in return:—

“Mayor of Reading, Pa., in behalf of its citizens, returns hearty thanks to the Mayor of Reading, England, for his official greeting on the occasion of the Sesqui-Centennial of the city, and sincerely reciprocates the kindly sentiments communicated therein.”

On June 20, 1898, Mayor Weidel received the following letter from the Deputy Mayor of Reading, England, which was dated June 13, 1898:—

“I have just returned from the continent after visiting Milan, Turin, Nice and Paris. when I find your very kind invitation to visit your city and join with you in commemorating your Sesqui-Centennial celebration. I am sorry to say distance has precluded my accepting same, or I should have visited you, but my thanks are none the less.

I arranged with our present mayor to send you a cablegram of congratulation, which has been duly replied to and came before a council meeting of our town last Saturday.

I also thank you for the parcel of books sent, and particularly the one referring to Free Masonry, which I shall bring before our lodge shortly.

I send you a paper giving account of the visit to Reading last Saturday on the occasion of opening a new college by his Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales.”

The cablegram from the Mayor of Reading, England, was forwarded through the efforts of John Bossard, traveling correspondent of *The Greater Reading*, an illustrated monthly publication at Reading, Pa., W. S. Hamaker, proprietor, he having succeeded in this behalf by meeting A. J. Mackinder, Esq., M. A., of that place, superintendent of the University Extension College, (who had lectured at Reading, Pa., in 1892, and been pleasantly entertained while here,) and requesting him to do so. Mr. Bossard forwarded a long letter from Reading, England, descriptive of public institutions there, together with photographs of those mentioned and also a portrait of the present Mayor, Hon. J. Berkeley Monck, J. P. This correspondence with the embellishments was printed in full in the June issue of *The Greater Reading* and was highly appreciated by its subscribers here and elsewhere.

The Reading Eagle, of Reading, Pa., by its city editor, Albert N. Burkholder, wrote to the Mayor of Reading, Eng., giving him valuable information of our city, to which he made a suitable reply, extending a cordial greeting and expressing a hope that Reading in the New World would continue to prosper and increase in importance.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The following Report of the Finance Committee was presented to the Executive Committee at their final meeting on July 8, 1898, and adopted:

Amount of subscriptions	\$10,394.10
Subscriptions paid	\$9,951.10
Receipts from other sources	461.56
Total receipts	10,412.66
Total expenses of all Committees	8,993.82
Surplus	\$1,418.84

The expenditures of the several Committees were as follows:

Accommodations	\$ 20.00	Insignia	\$295.56
Bicycle Parade	156.79	Invitation	108.88
Carriages	364.00	Medical	32.46
Cavalcade and Corso	273.76	Military	—
City Officials	—	Music	1429.70
Civic Demonstration	—	Official Program	—
Colors	406.30	Patriotic Demonstration	43.20
Courtesy	—	Pioneers	—
Decorations	201.50	Printing	84.82
Design of Envelopes	—	Program of Jubilee Week	—
Electrical Display	—	Publicity	167.31
Executive	876.62	Railroads and Transport'n	205.35
Finance	299.11	Reception	73.96
Firemen's Parade	—	Regatta	154.65
Fireworks	975.00	Rooms	428.14
Former Residents	—	School Parade	562.95
History of Reading	900.00	Signal Corps	208.33
Illumination	549.26	Water	58.77
Industrial Parade	—	Woman's	117.40

The item of the Executive Committee includes bills of City Officials, Civic Demonstration, Courtesy, Firemen's Parade and Industrial Parade.

The expense of the Electrical Display was \$1902.50, but it was contracted by City Councils. The Committee having a surplus of funds, reserved \$100 for a contingent fund, and applied \$1318.84 toward the payment of that expense, deeming this disposition the best that could be made.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

George F. Baer, for himself, Reading Iron Company and Reading Paper Mills, \$500.00; P. Barbey & Son, \$250.00; Lauer Brewing Co., Limited, \$250.00; Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart, \$200.00; National Union Bank, \$150.00; Farmers' National Bank, \$150.00; 30 Young Ladies, Girls' High School, \$7.10; Perkiomen Avenue Schools, per Miss Hughes, \$8.00.

EACH OF THE FOLLOWING, \$100:

Penn National Bank, Pennsylvania Trust Company, The Consumers' Gas Co., John D. Mishler, C. K. Whitner & Co., William H. Luden, E. M. Morgan, Merritt Brothers, Dibert Brothers, Leinbach & Bro., J. Mould & Co., Jesse G. Hawley, A. J. Brumbach, John R. Miller & Co., J. C. Illig & Bro., Reading Brewing Co., J. G. Leinbach & Co., The Reading Stove Works, Sellers, Medlar & Bachman, Kline, Eppihimer & Co, M. H. Schnader, Mt. Penn Stove Works, Gately & Britton, Penn Hardware Co., Reading Hardware Co., J. G. Mohn & Bros., J. H. Sternbergh & Son, Montello Clay & Brick Co.—H. L. Boas, Sec'y, Penna. Telephone Co.—I. J. Lerch, Gen'l Supt., Eckert & Bro., Rick Brothers, Keystone Wagon Co., Louis Kraemer & Co.; and W. N. Coleman & Son, \$75.

EACH OF THE FOLLOWING, \$50:

C. W. Hendel, John B. Raser, Yocum Bros., Louis Heilbron, Hipple Bros., The A. Wilhelm Co., Glase & Lichtenthaeler, Geo. L. Kestner & Co., Schrader & Kline, Jacob A. Leippe's Sons, L. H. Focht, Isaac Hiester, G. W. Alexander & Co., Orr & Sembower, Winter & Goetz, W. B. Krick, Acme Manufacturing Co., C. S. Birch, The Reading Herald—Wm. McCormick, Propr., Jacob Truby (Hotel Penn), Curtis, Jones & Co., John M. Archer, Reading Ribbon Badge Co.—Julius Weber, Sr., Morton L. Montgomery, W. P. Deppen, Cyrus G. Derr, R. L. Jones, R. N. Carson; and D. C. Keller, \$30.

EACH OF THE FOLLOWING, \$25:

Cohn & Goldman, John J. Kutz, Thos. P. Moore, Chas G. Willson, Milford N. Ritter, Jacob Barbey, Hoff & Bro., Matt. Moyer, John F. Boyer, Ermentrout & Deisher, Price & Spatz, W. C. Yoder, Myers & Heim, Common Sense Shoe Store, J. K. Righter, J. Geo. Hintz, Reading Electrical Construction Co. Ltd., Reading Knitting Mills, John F. Rote, O. B. Wetherhold & Co, Mengel & Mengel, B. & J. Saylor, Schlechter's Jewelry Store, Geo. W. Beard, C. W. Edwards, John H. Printz, John G. McGowan, J. S. Shade & Sons, John L. Bowman, Roehrich & Raab, F. S. Wertz & Co., C. H. Lichty, G. S. Herbein, E. S. Fox & Co., William Nolan, Aug. S. Flicker, A. C. Paine, Chas. M. Heilman & Co., Stevens & Stevens, Packer Cycle Co., John C. Stocker, Christ Ganster, Horace A. Yundt, Kurtz & Mayers, Carpenter Steel Co., I. Rambo & Son., Wm. D. Smith, Union Transfer Co., James N. Ermentrout, John R. Bechtel, Levi Quier, Henry A. Muhlenberg, Walter G. Roland, Farmers' Market House Co.—A. N. Kissinger, Gen'l Mgr., A. Thalheimer & Son, Reading Braid & Paper Box Co., National Brass & Iron Works, James K. Getz, Chas. M. Evans, P. F. Eisenbrown, Sons & Co., J. H. Cheetham, Reading Glass Works, Wm. R. McIlvain, Livingstone & Kern, F. Keffer & Co., Chas. Breneiser & Sons, Hercules Paper Bag Co, Harry Christensen, Geo. M. Ammon, M. K. Graeff, Bright & Lerch, Ltd., Reading Car Wheel Co, Bard, Reber & Co., G. H. Delp & Co., G. A. Endlich, Stichter Hardware Co. Ltd., Reading Times Publishing Co., Chas. Hathaway & Co., (26 Pine St., New York

City), S. Rossin & Sons, (173 Water St., New York City), T. W. Pig-gott (Neversink Mountain Hotel), John G. Niethammer; and E. Mackey, \$20.00, Jacobs & Keiser, \$20.00, Geo. W. Romig, \$20.00.

EACH OF THE FOLLOWING, \$15:

W. Storm Miller, Frank P. Esterly, Jacob S. Kline, John E. Bupp, A. M. High & Son, Jas. P. Esterly & Bro., C. H. Ruhl, W. H. Hinnershitz, Geo. D. Stitzel, Muhlenberg Brewing Co., by their attorney, J. H. Roth-ermel, Reading Installment Co., J. L. & M. F. Greene, Jacob H. Stein.

EACH OF THE FOLLOWING, \$10:

G. W. Ammon & Co., William H. Moyer, Albert J. Fisher, Jas. S. Brusstar & Co., S. M. Helms, Thos. D. Bausher, Grand Union Tea Co., Knorr & Ruth, B. F. Owen & Co., Calvin S. Nyce, John B. Shultz & Co., George Kemp, Jacob Walter, Daniel Y. Klapp, Koch & Wolf, Henry Schofer, H. C. Heller, Sam Hantsch, J. L. Repplier, Philip Bissinger, Dan. F. Ancona, Edward Scull & Co., Nathaniel Ferguson, B. Y. Landis, Schmucker Bros., Hugh O'Donnell, E. B. Strohecker, Wm. F. Shanaman, H. L. O'Brien, H. W. Crooks, Howard F. Boyer, Heffner, Gilbert & Croll, F. S. & S. B. Jacobs, Wm. S. Mohr, Gittelman & Harbach, W. B. Angstadt, The Great A. & P. Tea Co., H. D. Breneiser estate, Charles C. Goodman, R. H. Jones, F. W. Woolworth & Co., John D. Strunk, H. C. Geissler & Sons, Francis F. Seidel, Close & Deem, W. K. Leitheiser & Sons, Chas. Rentschler, Jr., Chas. H. Schaeffer, W. W. Light, Chas. A. Sheidy, Charles Maerz, J. H. Fett & Son, Geo. F. Lance, Reading Bottling Works, F. B. Hay, Excelsior Bottling Co., Fred. H. Witman & Co., Herman J. Croissant, Reading Scale & Machine Co., H. A. Hoff, F. X. Blessing, Frank S. Livingood, Frederick Stephan, Brooke Harrison, F. P. Heller, Henry Connard, W. G. Hollis, David Benson, John B. Brobst, W. F. Remppis, Geo. M. Jones, Benj. F. Dettra, Dr. D. G. Long, Rothermel & Mauger, Aaron Yocum, E. D. Smith, F. W. Hanold, D. S. Esterly, Wm. Behm, Thos. M. Leinbach, Frederick A. Barrows, Lambert A. Rehr, Ezra S. Wenrich, John F. Reifsnyder, H. L. Johnson & Son, J. H. Craig, John H. Obold & Co., Leymaster & Bricker, Swift & Co., Reading Cold Storage Co., Cash (through M. H. Schnader), Keystone Ribbon Badge Co., J. A. Esterly, Charles Potteiger, Harry Jones.

EACH OF THE FOLLOWING, \$5:

Fredk. Weilandt, J. O. Koller, Henry S. Yocum, M. C. Sigmund, Mahlon Shaaber, Chas. S. Prizer, Chas. A. Weida, Fred. S. Pfaeflein, Thos. Fair, John S. Fritz, Jacob C. Luden, H. Luther Frees, Wm. S. Miller, Brobst House, Jas. M. Morgan, Jacob Etzel, Davies, Printz & Co., Geo. R. Maltzberger, Hiram L. Henninger, W. M. Hiester, Wm. R. Eyrich, George A. Ravel, Heim & Hafer, Wilson M. Dumn, Patton & Billman, Chas. A. Brown, John R. Kaucher, Greater Reading Cigar Co., Chas. H. Raudenbush, E. E. Kahler, Harner & Pengelly, H. G. Landis & Sons, Fred. W. Lauer, W. H. Kennedy, Dr. J. B. Sterley, Louis Richards, Geo. B. Nein, Clarence T. Stubbs, A. L. Smith, I. S. Fry, H. B. Hintz, W. R. Loser, E. A. Berg, Jeff. M. Keller, B. Frank Ruth, S.

R. Bushby, Alex. Schlottman, Tragle Cordage Co., A. S. Esterly's Sons & Co., Stetson & Co, Oppenheim & Gehring, Jas A. Schofer, A. C. Weile, Geo. H. Felix, R. Buehrer, Wm. O. Flatt & Bro., Thos. K. Dalzell, J. Ed. Wanner, John H. Maltzberger.

EACH OF THE FOLLOWING, \$3:

E. E. Hafer, N. K. Bortz, A. W. Glase, S. E. Tinkler, Jr., J. Howard Cutler, Ebb N. Zell, Wm. Lender.

EACH OF THE FOLLOWING, \$2:

Hendricks & Adams, John C. Seltzer, Chas. N. Frame, C. V. Kratzer, Reinhard Rieger, N G. Hollis, Howard L. Drexel, John McHenry, Chester B. Jennings, J. M. Bertolet, Jacob W. Fichthorn. M. J. Snook, C. A. Muntz, Willoughby S. Wilde, A. N. Boyer, Geo. M. Krick, F. W. Eben & Bro.

EACH OF THE FOLLOWING, \$1:

W. S. Essig, C. H. Shick, Kirby Loewen, M. J. Blondheim, Chas. Brusck, M. J. Terry, D. E. Houck, Irvin J. Brandt, R. N. Kingkinger, Wellington Van Reed, Frank Kissinger, R. L. McCall, C. H. Williams, Geo. J. Oaks, John A. Stokes, Frank Diehl, Geo. W. Kissinger, Moyer Merzberger, D. P. Schaeffer & Co., Harry F. Hahn, Benj. F. Hunsicker, A. L. Rhoads & Co.

EACH OF THE FOLLOWING, 50 cts:

D. Amole, J. A. Kline, Jacob A. Wummer, J. N. Ernst; and patrons of Loewen's Barber Shop, \$1.75, and Cash 25 cents.

FINANCIAL RECAPITULATION.

Summary of foregoing subscriptions:

Special subscriptions, amounting to \$1515.10; 33 of \$100; 1 of \$75; 28 of \$50; 1 of \$30; 82 of \$25; 3 of \$20; 13 of \$15; 94 of \$10; 65 of \$5; 81 of \$3 and less.

Receipts from following sources:

Official Program (21,000 copies distributed free), \$111.85; Hintz's sale of booklets, \$21.84; Chorus rehearsal, Auditorium, \$25.15; Hintz's sale of special invitations, \$40.57; Official Envelope Committee \$89.52; Woman's Committee, (balance) \$14.23; Peter Ogden Association, (balance), \$4.50; Sundry sources, \$1.55.

PART IV.—BOARD OF TRADE AND READING OFFICIALS.

BOARD OF TRADE—1898.

The aims of the Board of Trade of Reading are to promote and foster the trade, commerce, and manufacturing interests of Reading; to acquire and disseminate valuable commercial and statistical information; and in general to protect and advance the business affairs of this community.

The Board was organized April 21, 1881, and incorporated February 11, 1889. Its quarters are at No. 25 North Sixth street, where reading, reception and assembly rooms provide convenient and pleasant quarters for the transaction of business by the members, and superior facilities for social and business intercourse.

The presidents of the organization in their consecutive order since its inception have been the following, all active and prominent business men who exerted a wide influence in behalf of local prosperity:—J. H. Sternbergh, 1881—1884; Isaac Mc Hose, 1884—1890; Peter D. Wanner, 1890—1891; S. E. Ancona, 1891—1892; Jerome L. Boyer, 1892—1894; Thomas P. Merritt, 1894—1898.

The officers, standing committees, and members for the year 1898-99 are as follows:

OFFICERS.

President, Samuel D. Dibert.

1st Vice Pres., J. George Hintz. 2nd Vice Pres., Daniel F. Dietrich.
Treasurer, Fredric P. Heller. Secretary, Eugene P. Stofer.

DIRECTORS.

James P. Sellers, Thomas P. Merritt, Jeremiah G. Mohn, Louis Heilbron, J. K. Righter, S. E. Ancona, Charles E. Leippe,
John R. Mast.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Finance:—J. K. Righter, W. W. Light, John G. McGowan, J. L. Greene, James F. Mohn.

Manufactures:—Charles E. Leippe, W. Herbert Ermentrout, Albert Thalheimer, Howard L. Boas, Jenkin Hill, Jonathan G. Leinbach, John R. Miller.

Legislation:—S. E. Ancona, Harry S. High, Milton H. Schnader, Chas. W. Hendel, Francis S. Jacobs.

Statistics:—J. Geo. Hintz, Morton L. Montgomery, W. S. S. Coleman, I. Rambo, Jr., Walter G. Roland.

Municipal:—James P. Sellers, W. Morris Deisher, C. K. Whitner, A. K. Kline, Henry B. Hintz.

Arbitration:—Daniel F. Dietrich, Ferdinand Goetz, Chas. S. Prizer, Harry C. Weber, Dr. Otto Noack.

Railroads and Transportation:—Louis Heilbron, Geo. M. Britton, A. C. Weile, C. J. Wickersham, Jas. M. Hutchison.

Membership:—C. H. Armour, S. S. Schweriner, Chas. G. Willson, C. W. Kissinger, J. Harry Leippe.

Rooms:—John R. Mast, H. J. Fueller, Richard H. Bortle, S. M. Helms, John D. Strunk.

Reception:—Hon. Thos. P. Merritt, Hon. H. Willis Bland, Mayor Jacob Weidel, John D. Mishler, Jeremiah G. Mohn, J. H. Sternbergh, Isaac McHose, P. D. Wanner, S. E. Ancona, Jerome L. Boyer, A. J. Brumbach, John R. Bechtel, Josiah Dives, D. S. Esterly, Jesse G. Hawley, Milford N. Ritter, Jas. W. Yocum, H. W. Crooks, Louis F. Kraemer, Jr., James A. Klees, W. H. Luden, W. D. Smith, I. J. Lerch, Jacob Truby, Louis Adler, Matthan Harbster, C. Raymond Heizmann, W. F. Remppis, M. Brayton McKnight, John O. Glase, Dr. H. L. Johnson.

Members:—Adler Bros., Howard E. Ahrens, S. E. Ancona, Daniel F. Ancona, W. B. Angstadt, Charles H. Armour, Arms & Lerch, E. C. Baker, P. Barbey & Son, Frederick A. Barrows, T. D. Bausner, John R. Bechtel, E. C. Behrens, Dr. John M. Bertolet, Philip Bissinger, Hon. H. Willis Bland, Howard L. Boas, Richard H. Bortle, John L. Bowman, Howard F. Boyer, Jerome L. Boyer, Charles Breneiser & Sons, John B. Brobst, George Brooke, Albert Broden, A. J. Brumbach, David Campbell, E. Chamberlain, City Laundry Co., Cohn & Goldman, W. N. Coleman & Son, H. S. Ccmstock, H. W. Crooks, Crouse & Co., Curtis, Jones & Co., S. S. Davies, C. M. Deem, David E. DeHart, DeLong Bros., W. P. Deppen, Cyrus G. Derr, S. D. Dibert, Hayes Dickinson, D. F. Dietrich & Sons, Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart, Tyrus B. Dubbs, Eckert & Bro., P. F. Eisenbrown & Son, George Eltz, W. Herbert Ermentrout, Ermentrout & Deysher, D. S. Esterly, C. M. Evans, Nat Ferguson, First National Bank, C. T. Fox, E. S. Fox & Co., Eli W. Fox & Co., A. S. Flicker, H. J. Fueller, Gasser & Johnson, Gately & Britton, E. R. Gerber (Telegram), James K. Getz, Glase & Lichtenhaler, J. L. & M. F. Greene, H. B. Hagy, Harner & Pengelly, G. Howard Hart, C. R. Harrington, J. G. Hawley (Eagle,) L. Heilbron, C. F. Heller, Fred H. Huy, F. P. Heller, S. M. Helms, Charles W. Hendel, Henninger, Schick & Hertwig, Isaac Hiester, W. M. Hiester, A. M. High & Son, Henry B. Hintz, J. Geo. Hintz, S. S. Hoff, Harry S. Hoffman, Robert H. Holmes, Hoskin & Giles, F. J. Hunt, James Hutchison, Illig & Bro., Industrial Cigar Co., Jackson & Hill, F. S. & S. B. Jacobs, Dr. H. L. Johnson, Richmond L. Jones, J. H. Keppelman, George L. Kestner & Co., Keystone National Bank, Keystone Wagon Co., R. B. Kinsey, A. N. Kissinger & Son, Kline, Eppihimer & Co., Louis Kraemer & Co., Joseph P. Kremp, George M. Krick, N. T. Kunkle, Kurtz & Mayers, B. Y. Landis, Dr. Henry Landis, Frank P. Lauer, J. G. Leinbach & Co., Leinbach & Bro., Jacob A. Leippe's Sons, I. J. Lerch, W. W. Light, Livingstone & Kern, Joseph Loeb, Hon. Edward M. Luden, William H. Luden, Charles L. Lyon, John R. Mast & Co., William McCormick (Herald), John G. McGowan, McHose & Co., Merritt Bros, George M. Miller, George W. Miller, John R. Miller & Co., John D. Mishler, James F. Mohn, J. G. Mohn & Bro., William S. Mohr, Charles F. Molly, Montello Clay &

Brick Works, Morton L. Montgomery, David Moser, J. Mould & Co., Matt Moyer & Son, Mt. Penn Stove Works, Muhlenberg Bros., Mutual Fire Insurance Co., National Union Bank, Dr. Otto Noack, John H. Obold & Co., Orr, Painter & Co., Henry M. Otto, B. F. Owen, Patton & Billman, George D. Packer, Penn Hardware Co., Penn National Bank, Charles W. Pennock, Price & Spatz, Isaiah Rambo, Jr., John B. Raser, John W. Rauch, Fred. Row, Reading Foundry Co., Reading Hardware Co., Reading Scale & Machine Co., Reading Times Publishing Co., James T. Reber, W. F. Rempis, Rick Bros., John A. Rigg, J. K. Righter, Milford N. Ritter (Adler,) Walter G. Roland, George W. Romig, Wm. Rosenthal (Post,) Rourke & Heinly, Herman F. L. Rummel, A. H. Satterthwaite, B. & J. Saylor, S. S. Schweriner, Schuykill Valley Bank, Schrader & Kline, Dr. F. R. Schmucker, Leo Schaetzle, Schnader, Nagle & Co., G. A. Schlechter, W. Y. Schmucker, Sellers, Medlar & Bachman, Second National Bank, C. H. Sembower, F. Shunk Planing Mill Co., A. P. H. Saul, Wm. F. Shanaman, C. A. Sheidy, W. D. Smith, A. F. Smith, M. J. Snook, J. E. Spears, J. C. Stocker, J. H. Sternbergh, Stichter Hardware Co., D. W. Stehman, E. P. Stofer, John D. Strunk, Albert Thalheimer, Fred. Treuleben, Jacob Truby, Wellington VanReed, Dr. Robert Walter, Jacob Walter, S. Weida, Hon. Jacob Weidel, Harry C. Weber, G. C. Weile, C. K. Whitner & Co., Winter & Goetz, Charles W. Wilhelm, Daniel H. Wingerd, Charles G. Willson, C. J. Wickersham, J. Ed. Wanner, Aaron Yocom, James W. Yocum, W. H. Yoder.

 OFFICIALS OF READING—1898.

ELECTED OFFICIALS.

[*Democrat—†Republican.]

Mayor.—Jacob Weidel.**Controller.*—Adam H. Leader.†*Treasurer.*—Dr. John Y. Hoffman,* elected by Councils to fill unexpired term of Henry G. Young, resigned.*City Assessors.*—Daniel Beidler,† Aaron H. Donkle† and Abraham F. Reeser.†

MEMBERS OF COUNCILS.

Select Council.—1st Ward, Matthew Rhoda;* 2nd Ward, William R. Madden;† 3rd Ward, Jacob B. Stout;* 4th Ward, H. L. Johnson;† 5th Ward, William H. Bitting;† 6th Ward, William W. Wunder;† 7th Ward, Howard L. Boas;† 8th Ward, John H. Close;* 9th Ward, George W. Romig;* 10th Ward, John A. Rauen;* 11th Ward, H. J. Wentzel;* 12th Ward, Amos H. Beard;* 13th Ward, Wm. Abbott Witman;* 14th Ward, Isaac W. Hull;* 15th Ward, P. Monroe Krick;* 16th Ward, Geo. B. Clouser. Clerk, Edwin L. Lindemuth.*

Common Council.—1st Ward, William Templin;† 2nd Ward, Rufus W. Wolfskill;† 3rd Ward, James P. Morgan;* 4th Ward, John M. Archer;† 5th Ward, Edward C. Eben;† 6th Ward, Robert B. Harris;†

7th Ward, Robert D. Millholland;† 8th Ward, K. Harry Cleaver;* 9th Ward, Joseph Witman;* 10th Ward, Richard L. Lawrence;* 11th Ward, Samuel E. Cummings;* 12th Ward, James P. Yorgy;* 13th Ward, J. Ashton Parker;* 14th Ward, John H. Mast;* 15th Ward, Geo. W. Shaffer;* 16th Ward, John H. Bach.* Clerk, Howard N. Goodman.*

APPOINTED OFFICIALS.

Department of Police.—Chief of Police, Jacob Etzel, appointed to fill unexpired term of John F. Albrecht, resigned. Sergeants:—Charles L. Kenderdine, Robert C. Weidel, Wm. H. Seiders and F. Hintz.

Patrolmen:—George Albrecht, Joseph Auchter, John Bachman, Charles Barlet, Jacob Becker, Daniel W. Bobst, Augustus Bulles, James T. Clay, George Coxe, Charles Fegely, William P. Foos, John Fredericks, William Grimmer, Michael Hain, Lewis Hatt, Charles Hetherington, Matthias Hoffman, David Holl, Rudolph Imhoff, Morris Iscovitz, George Klemmer, Jacob P. Kuhn, James Kuhns, William Lemmer, William Link, John Machamer, Amos Manmiller, William Merkel, Stephen McDonough, William McDonough, Hiester Obold, Frank Omler, Charles Orth, Hugh O'Rourke, Mahlon Raudenbush, Washington B. Romig, Peter B. Rothermel, Charles Rourke, Edward Sauer, Harry Saylor, George Seibert, Frank Seiling, George Wagner, George Weber, Henry L. Wickel, Frederick Wick.

Supt. Police Patrol System, William S. Hoffman; Patrol Drivers, Thomas Kissinger and Warren Heller; Operators, Samuel Lewis and Charles E. Mast; Police Clerk, Robert C. Weidel; Turnkeys, John Steinle and Gustavus Haage; Police Matron, Mrs. Lizzie S. Miller; Janitress, Mrs. Kate Goodman; Scavenger, Herbert Moyer.

Department of Finance.—City Clerk's office:—City Clerk, Horace H. Hammer;† Assistant City Clerk, Walter F. Bush;† and Clerk, Thomas Hammer. Controller's office:—Clerks, Martha M. Schroeder and Katharine A. Rice. Treasurer's office:—Assistant Treasurer, Harry Ritter,* and Stenographer, Lulu M. Brouch.

Department of Law.—City Solicitor's Office:—City Solicitor, William J. Rourke,* and Clerk, Foster Biehl.—Building Inspector, John S. Wagner*.

Department of Surveys.—City Engineer, Samuel S. Hoff, and Assistant Engineer, Elmer H. Beard.—Draughtsman, William J. Hoch.—Transitmen, Edmund B. Ulrich and Frederick B. Adams‡.—Rodmen, Arthur C. Kretz, George E. Miller, Charles C. Barto‡ and John Rieger‡.—Chainmen:—Charles L. Ryan, and Joseph R. Schmitt.—Registry Clerk, Walter Yorgy, and Assistant Wm. E. Reed.—Inspector of Materials, Charles W. Gerhard‡. Those marked ‡ were appointed under resolution of Councils for special work.

Department of Markets.—Commissioner, Albert Merz.

Department of Fire.—Chief Engineer, George W. Miller; Assistant Engineers, Morris Weaver and Calvin Addis. Superintendent Fire Alarm System, William S. Hoffman.

Department of Water:—Commissioners of Board, Frank A. Tyson, president; George H. Felix, Matthan Harbster and F. P. Heller; secretary, E. L. Lindemuth; chief clerk, James Hangen; and assistant, Fritz M. Schroeder. Superintendent, Emil L. Nuebling; assistant, Harry K. Brown; foreman, Richard Robinson; draughtsman, Samuel D. Koch; engineers at Maidecreek pumping station, William H. Ketchley and Nathan Auchenbach; inspectors, Charles E. Miller and George J. Butler.

Department of Health:—Directors of Board, Dr. A. B. Dundore, president; Dr. W. F. Marks, Dr. S. L. Kurtz, Dr. J. N. Becker, D. P. Schlott, T. P. Merritt, and C. H. Schaeffer; secretary, James Hangen; commissioner, Roland Laing; plumbing inspector, Thomas E. Weber.

Department of Public Parks:—Commissioners, George F. Baer, president; David E. Benson, Walter S. Davis and John A. Strohecker. Superintendent, William H. Burke; gardeners, Charles Gindra, and assistant, Harry Beard; park guards, Ammon Griesemer and Charles Heisler.

Department of Tax:—Board of Revision of Taxes and Appeals, James P. Yorgy, chairman; Samuel E. Cummings, Wm. H. Wetherhold, Isaac W. Hull, Zach. D. Saylor; license collector, Harry E. Hawman.

Department of Public Works:—Commissioners, Ferdinand Goetz, president; James L. Douglas, George Eltz and Charles W. Potteiger; chief commissioner of highways and sewers, Samuel S. Hoff.

Department of Highways:—Foreman, 1st district, Michael R. Fredericks; 2nd district, Frank Aulenbach; 3rd district, H. John Kintzer; 4th district, Frank German.

Department of Sewers:—Engineers, James S. Miller, Andrew Schmittinger, and Wayne Brown; firemen, John McConkey, Harry Graul and Henry C. Diehl; watchmen, Coldren Frankhauser, Samuel A. Buckley and Daniel Sheehan; repairsman, Louis G. Broschkowsky.

ALDERMEN AND CONSTABLES.

Aldermen:—1st ward, Charles E. Stout;† 2nd ward, Franklin W. Noll;† 3rd ward, Howard Hoch*; 4th ward, Wm. H. Houck;† 5th ward, Charles W. Yarnell;† 6th ward, F. C. Clemson;† 7th ward, John G. L. Brownwell;† 8th ward, Albert H. Fegely;* 9th ward, E. C. Kirschmann;* 10th ward, John A. Merkel;* 11th ward, Wm. F. Weber;* 12th ward, Henry S. Yocom;† 13th ward, David C. Boyer;† 14th ward, E. P. Van Reed;† 15th ward, Wm. T. Snyder;* 16th ward, Geo. W. Brown.†

Constables:—1st ward, Lewis M. Rhoads;† 2nd ward, George Gehret;* 3rd ward, Charles H. Derr;† 4th ward, Milton C. Kreider;* 5th ward, Charles M. Deem;† 6th ward, Henry Ruth;* 7th ward, L. A. Strubell;† 8th ward, George B. Wagner;* 9th ward, Harry C. Beck;* 10th ward, Harry C. Wise;* 11th ward, Jacob B. Reifsnyder;* 12th ward, John C. Borrell;* 13th ward, Isaiah J. Beck;* 14th ward, John Gottschall;† 15th ward, Edward Conner;* 16th ward, Irvin S. Clouse.*

SCHOOL BOARD.—1898.

OFFICERS.

President, J. Edward Wanner; *Secretary*, Francis Roland, Jr.; *Treasurer*, Albert R. Hoover; *City Superintendent*, Ebenezer Mackey; *Solicitor*, Walter S. Young; *Superintendent of Repairs*, Daniel S. Reider; *Librarian*, K. Laura Mengel.

CONTROLLERS.

1st Ward —George E. Tyson, Henry T. Melcher, William A. Barber, Geo. F. Hagenman.

2nd Ward.—John Morris, Elmer A. German, Frank Kissinger, Henry A. Harner.

3rd Ward.—Henry W. Schick, Thomas G. Printz, B. Frank Ruth, Chester B. Jennings.

4th Ward.—John H. Obold, William J. Bobst, Jefferson M. Keller, Edward W. James.

5th Ward.—Harry F. Hahn, Wellington Van Reed, Alvin N. Boyer, Lloyd Nunemacher.

6th Ward.—John G. Heck, Walter Prutzman, Charles H. Frederick, Charles N. Seitzinger.

7th Ward:—Ellsworth A. Leinbach, Howard Keppelman, John H. Maltzberger, J. Edward Wanner.

8th Ward.—Seymour T. Schmehl, James R. Mercer, Cyrus Wertz, Edwin B. Gettis.

9th Ward.—Elias H. Frantz, Eli D. Emerich, Harry A. Heckman, Benj. F. Hunsicker.

10th Ward. Henry H. Weitzel, John J. Phillipson, Charles F. Brissel, William H. Longacre.

11th Ward.—Urias R. Fisher, Charles A. Hawk, Alfred Gunkel, Howard S. Becker.

12th Ward.—Daniel K. Biehl, John L. Seiders, Harry S. Levan, Albert G. Bauman.

13th Ward.—Abraham Whitman, Hiram M. Trout, Evan C. Wentzel, George J. Triebel.

14th Ward.—Samuel J. Waid, William W. Fetter, George R. Hoover, B. Frank Fink.

15th Ward, Geo. W. Wagner, David K. Kaufman, Howard E Ahrens, Chas. F. Kiesling.

16th Ward.—Samuel H. Fulmer, S. E. Ancona, Daniel F. Printz, John B. Houpp.

READING POST OFFICE—1898.

Officers:—John S. Thompson, Postmaster, (having been assistant under Calvin Goodman, postmaster, from August 1, 1888, to March 21, 1891, expiration of term); Charles W. Hoover, assistant; J. Allen Riegel, foreman of letter carriers.

Clerks.—William F. Kinch, money order; Daniel P. Rhoads, registry; Francis D. Ritter, Elmer A. Reeser, Harry K. Brunner and Horace S. Althouse, mailing; John Scheifly, stamp; George W. Clous, Harry E. Swartz, James B. Potteiger, and Charles W. Kreitzer, distributing; Raymond G. Lotz, gen'l delivery; Harry M. Schroeder, stamping; Oscar J. Leiby, substitute; Raymond L. Diehl, special delivery messenger.

Letter Carriers.—Horace D. Boone, Marks Boyer, B. Frank DeHart, Harry L. Diehl, George W. Dorsey, Charles Dutt, David L. Evans, Edward D. Fisher, Frank R. Fichthorn, Robert Gerlach, William H. Gross, Daniel W. Guldin, Thomas G. Harper, Thomas J. High, J. Morris High, George C. Houck, Daniel James, Peter S. Keffer, David F. Knabb, William Laubentine, Frank H. Minkhouse, George J. Morrison, Augustus Potteiger, William H. Rodgers, John R. Sayer, Jerome Seiders, John Shaaber, Edward M. Shirey, George McC. Spohn, Edward A. Stoeckel, Franklin Taylor, John T. Taylor, Franklin B. Thomas, John N. Machter, Henry A. Weidensaul.

Substitute Carriers.—Jacob H. Rhoads, John H. Zerr, George H. Hepler, John P. Eiche, Thomas Kissinger.

Treasury Department.—John S. Thompson, custodian; Harvey W. Witmoyer, janitor; Francis P. Shannon, night watchman; Louisa E. Rhoads, char-woman.



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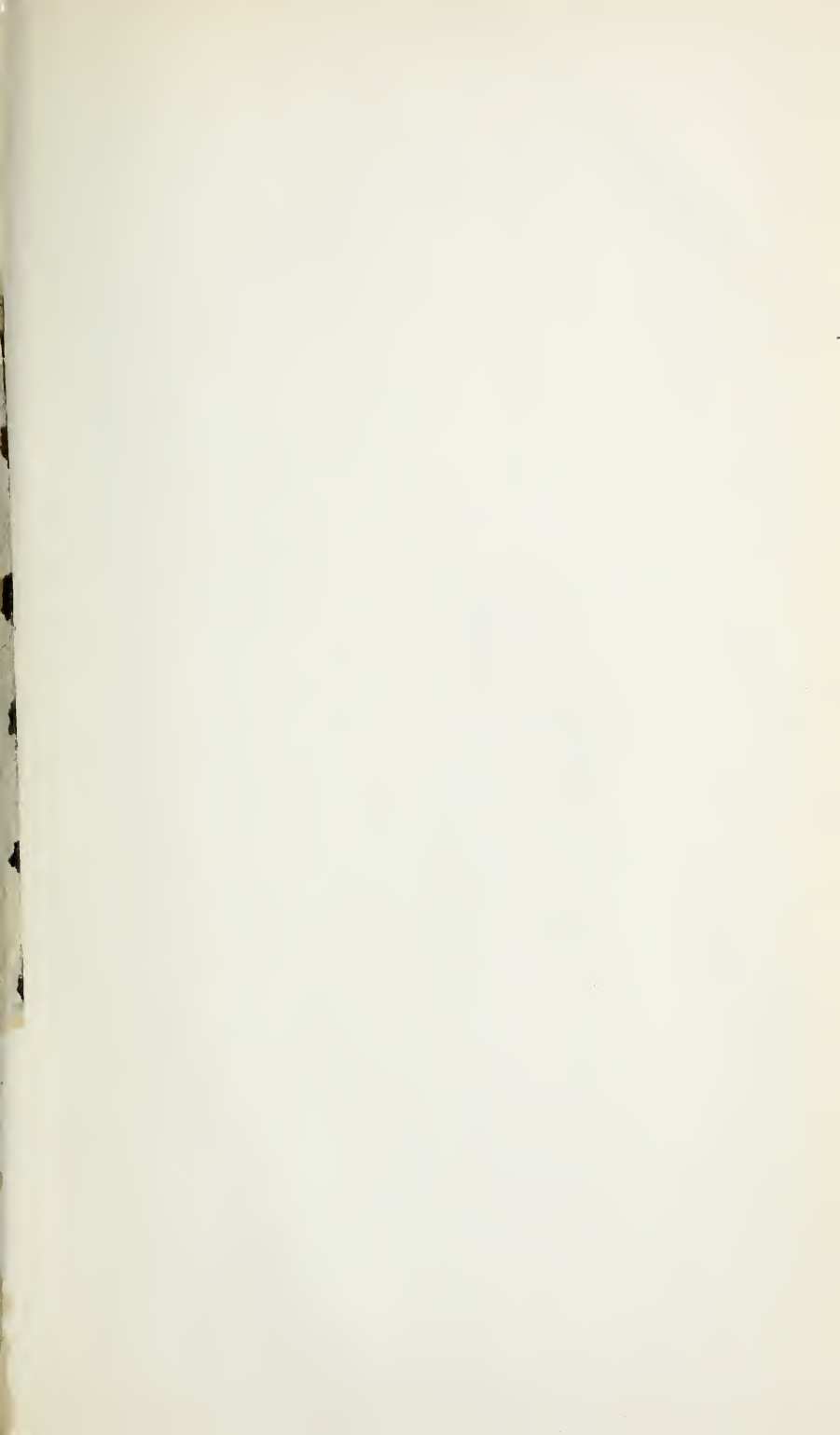
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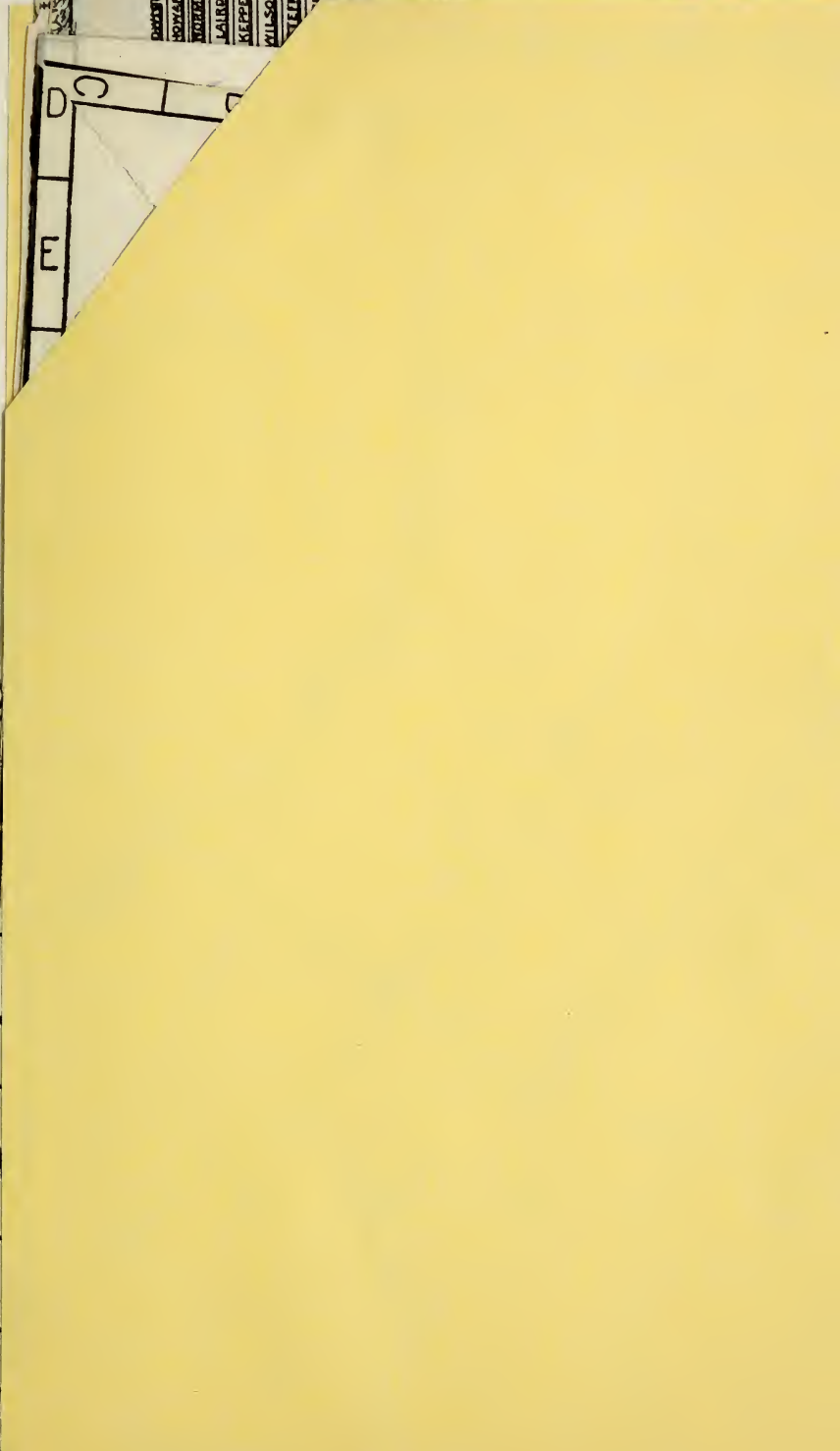
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HOWARD
KORZAN
LAIRD
KEPPEL
WILSON
WITTE



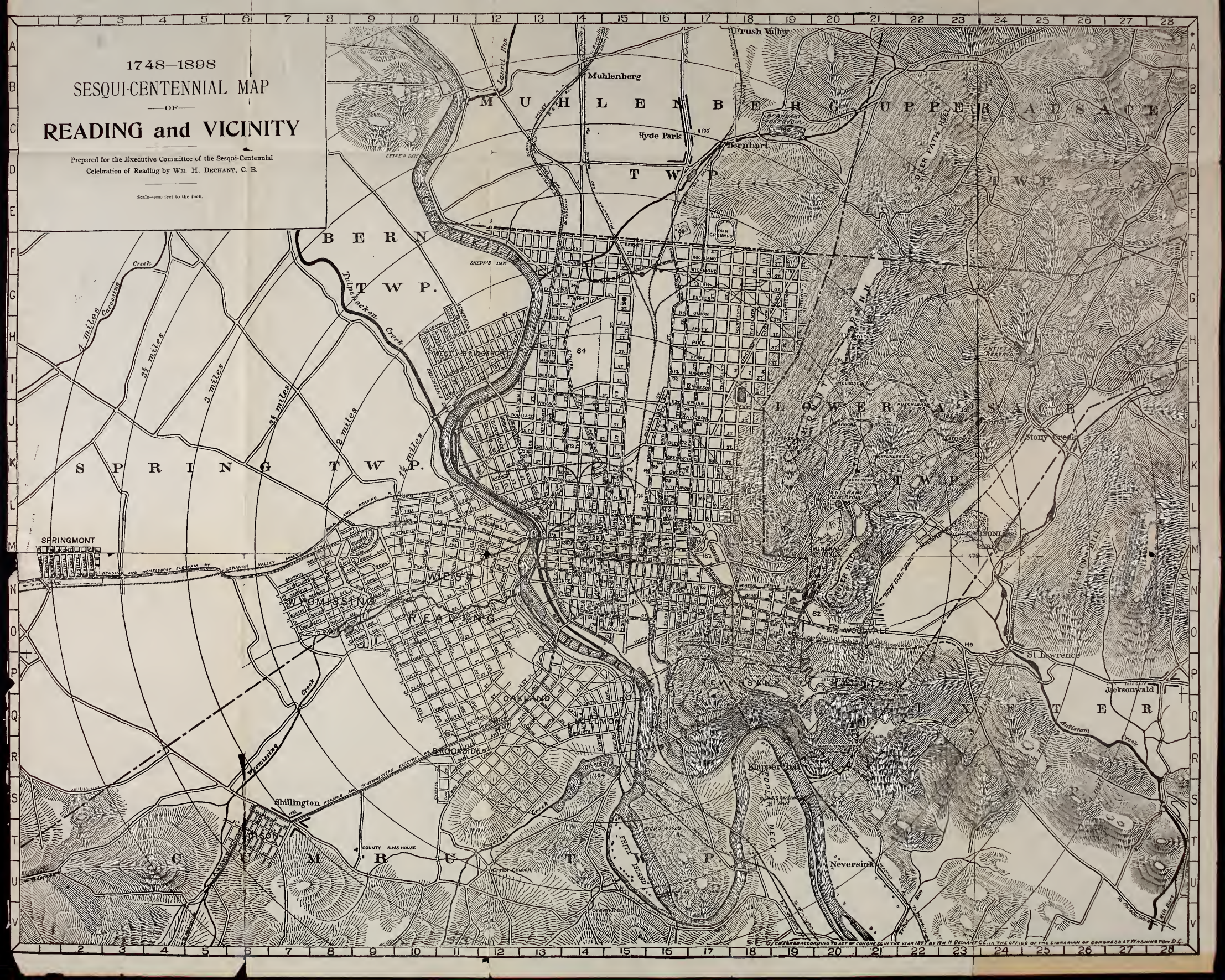
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1748-1898
SESQUI-CENTENNIAL MAP

OF
READING and VICINITY

Prepared for the Executive Committee of the Sesqui-Centennial
Celebration of Reading by Wm. H. DECHANT, C. E.

Scale—2000 feet to the inch.



Public Buildings.

- | | |
|----------------------------|------|
| 1. City Hall, | 15-M |
| 2. Court House, | 15-M |
| 3. County Prison, | 17-M |
| 4. Post Office, | 15-M |
| 5. Sewage Pumping Station, | 15-O |
| 6. Sewage Disposal Plant, | 15-S |

Market Houses.

- | | |
|------------------------|------|
| 7. Chestnut Street, | 16-N |
| 8. Farmers, No. 1, | 16-M |
| 9. Farmers, No. 2, | 16-M |
| 10. Farmers, No. 3, | 16-M |
| 11. Fifth Street, | 15-K |
| 12. North-East, | 16-L |
| 13. Pottager, | 14-M |
| 14. South Reading, | 15-N |
| 15. Tenth and Windsor, | 16-J |
| 16. West Reading, | 14-M |

Churches.**BAPTIST.**

- | | |
|-------------|------|
| 17. First, | 14-N |
| 18. Bereau, | 16-J |

EVANGELICAL.

- | | |
|------------------------------|------|
| 19. Ebenezer, | 16-L |
| 20. First United, | 15-M |
| 21. Friendship Hope Mission, | 16-N |
| 22. Grace United, | 15-L |
| 23. Immanuel, | 15-M |
| 24. Salem, | 16-M |
| 25. St. Matthew's, | 19-O |
| 26. Trinity United, | 16-N |

FRIENDS.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| 27. Friends' Meeting House, | 15-L |
|-----------------------------|------|

HEBREW.

- | | |
|---------------------------|------|
| 28. Temple "Oleh Shalom," | 15-N |
| 29. Shomro Habrith, | 16-K |

HOLINESS CHRISTIANS.

- | | |
|--------------|------|
| 30. Calvary, | 14-M |
|--------------|------|

LUTHERAN.

- | | |
|-------------------------|------|
| 31. Faith, | 21-O |
| 32. Grace, | 17-M |
| 33. Hope, | 13-K |
| 34. Peace, | 14-G |
| 35. St. James, | 15-N |
| 36. St. James' Mission, | 12-Q |
| 37. St. John's, | 15-L |
| 38. St. John's Chapel, | 17-O |
| 39. St. Luke's, | 16-K |
| 40. St. Mark's, | 16-J |
| 41. St. Matthew's, | 15-L |
| 42. Trinity, | 15-L |

METHODIST EPISCOPAL.

- | | |
|--------------------|------|
| 43. African M. E., | 16-M |
| 44. Covenant, | 16-L |
| 45. Fourth Street, | 16-M |
| 46. Memorial, | 15-L |
| 47. Fifth Street, | 15-N |

PRESBYTERIAN.

- | | |
|------------------------|------|
| 48. First, | 15-M |
| 49. Olivet, | 15-M |
| 50. Washington Street, | 16-M |

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL.

- | | |
|-----------------------|------|
| 51. Christ Cathedral, | 14-M |
| 52. St. Barnabas, | 15-N |
| 53. St. Luke's, | 17-I |

REFORMED.

- | | |
|--------------------|------|
| 54. Calvary, | 14-K |
| 55. Faith, | 14-N |
| 56. First, | 15-L |
| 57. Olivet, | 14-G |
| 58. Second, | 15-M |
| 59. St. Andrew's, | 17-N |
| 60. St. James', | 11-M |
| 61. St. John's, | 16-N |
| 62. St. Mark's, | 13-K |
| 63. St. Paul's, | 15-L |
| 64. St. Stephen's, | 16-K |
| 65. St. Thomas', | 17-J |
| 66. Zion's, | 16-M |

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- | | |
|------------------------------|------|
| 67. St. Joseph's, | 16-I |
| 68. St. Mary's, | 17-N |
| 69. St. Paul's, | 16-L |
| 70. St. Peter's, | 14-N |
| 71. St. Cecilia Memorial, | 13-K |
| 194. House of Good Shepherd, | 14-N |

UNITED BRETHREN.

- | | |
|--|------|
| 72. Mennonite, | 16-J |
| 73. Otterhein, | 16-L |
| 74. Salem, | 16-J |
| 75. Zion's, | 16-M |
| 76. Church of Our Father,
(Universalist), | 14-M |

- | | |
|----------------------|------|
| 77. Mission of Hope, | 15-M |
|----------------------|------|

Hospitals.

- | | |
|-------------------|------|
| 79. Homoeopathic, | 15-L |
| 80. Reading, | 13-I |
| 81. St. Joseph's, | 17-L |

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- | | |
|--------------------------|------|
| 82. Aulenhach's, | 20-N |
| 83. Catholic, | 16-O |
| 84. Charles Evans, | 14-H |
| 85. Hebrew, | 16-O |
| 86. St. John's Lutheran, | 17-O |
| 87. Trinity Lutheran, | 17-O |
| 88. Alsace Reformed, | 16-E |

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- | | |
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| 89. Boys' High, | 16-M |
| 90. Girls' High, | 14-M |
| 91. Jesse Orr, | 14-O |
| 92. Thomas Severn, | 15-O |
| 93. Chestnut Street, | 14-N |
| 94. Franklin Street, | 14-M |
| 95. George Lerch, | 15-N |
| 96. J. Hagenman, | 16-M |
| 97. Bingham Street, | 16-N |
| 98. Ninth and Spruce, | 16-N |
| 99. J. S. Richards, | 17-N |
| 100. Samuel Frees, | 17-O |
| 101. Perkiomen Avenue, | 18-N |
| 102. Seventeenth and Cotton, | 19-O |
| 103. Poplar Street, | 15-L |

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| 104. Henry S. Eckert, | 16-L |
| 105. A. H. Phillippi, | 16-L |
| 106. Elm Street, | 16-L |
| 107. Tenth and Green, Nos. 1 & 2, | 16-K |
| 108. Mulberry Street, | 16-K |
| 109. Twelfth and Buttonwood, | 17-L |
| 110. Twelfth and Greenwich, | 17-K |
| 111. Edwin Ziegler, | 16-J |
| 112. Marion Street, | 16-I |
| 113. Spring and Moss Streets, | 16-J |
| 114. Tenth and Union Streets, | 16-G |
| 115. Twelfth and Windsor, | 17-J |
| 116. J. H. Jacobs, | 14-G |
| 117. C. B. McKnight, | 15-J |
| 118. Lewis Briner, | 14-L |
| 119. Spring Street, | 15-I |
| 120. Washington Street, | 14-L |
| 121. Ricktown, | 13-L |
| 122. Bechteltown, | 14-K |
| 123. Schuylkill Avenue, Nos. 1 & 2, | 13-K |
| 124. St. Peter's Parochial, | 15-N |
| 125. St. Michael's Seminary, | 17-G |
| 125. Brunner's Business College, | 14-M |
| 126. Inter-state Commercial College, | 15-M |

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- | | |
|--------------------------------|------|
| 127. Friendship, | 16-M |
| 128. Hampden, | 17-K |
| 129. Junior, | 15-L |
| 130. Keystone Hook and Ladder, | 14-M |
| 131. Liberty, | 14-O |
| 132. Marion, | 16-I |

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- | | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| 133. Neversink, | 14-M |
| 134. Rainbow, | 16-M |
| 135. Reading Hose, | 15-M |
| 136. Riverside, | 14-G |
| 137. Schuylkill, | 13-K |
| 138. Washington Hook and Ladder, | 16-N |

Halls.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| 139. Academy of Music, | 15-L |
| 140. Auditorium, | 15-M |
| 141. Masonic Temple, | 15-L |
| 142. Grand Opera House, | 14-M |
| 142. Gilder's Auditorium, | 15-M |
| 7. Excelsior, | 16-N |
| 143. Library, | 14-M |
| 144. Rajah Temple, | 15-M |
| 78. Young Men's Christian Assoc'n, | 15-M |
| 145. Railroaders' Y. M. C. A., | 16-K |

Hotels.

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|--------------------------|------|
| 146. Allen House, | 15-M |
| 147. American House, | 14-M |
| 148. Berks County House, | 15-M |
| 149. Black Bear Inn, | 23-O |
| 150. Grand Central, | 14-M |
| 151. Centennial Springs, | 21-Q |
| 152. City, | 15-M |
| 142. Crystal Palace, | 15-M |
| 153. Dengler's, | 21-O |
| 154. Farmers', | 14-L |
| 155. Highland House, | 17-P |
| 156. Hotel Penn, | 15-M |
| 157. Kurtz House, | 12-Q |
| 158. Mansion House, | 15-M |
| 159. Merchants', | 14-M |
| 160. Continental, | 16-L |
| 161. Mineral Spring, | 20-N |
| 162. Neversink Mountain, | 20-P |
| 163. Reading House, | 15-K |
| 164. Riverside, | 14-G |
| 165. Summit, | 19-K |
| 166. Three Mile House, | 7-S |
| 167. Union, | 16-M |
| 168. United States, | 14-M |
| 169. Woodvale Inn, | 21-O |

Passenger Stations.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| 170. Penna. Schuylkill Valley, | 13-M |
| 171. Philadelphia & Reading, | 15-K |
| 172. Franklin Street, (P. & R.), | 15-M |
| 173. Wilmington & Northern, | 13-M |
| 174. W. & N., foot of Sixth Street, | 15-O |

Freight Stations.

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|--------------------------------|------|
| 175. Penna. Schuylkill Valley, | 14-O |
| 176. Philadelphia & Reading, | 15-L |
| 177. P. & R., Spruce Street, | 13-N |
| 178. Wilmington & Northern, | 13-M |

Parks.

- | | |
|----------------------|------|
| 179. Carsodia, | 23-M |
| 180. Klappertal, | 21-R |
| 181. Mineral Spring, | 20-M |
| 182. Penn's Common, | 17-M |
| 183. Wildwood, | 23-J |

Reservoirs.

- | | |
|------------------------------|------|
| 184. Anglica Water Co., | 14-R |
| 185. Annetam, | 25-H |
| 186. Bernhart, | 19-C |
| 187. Buttonwood, | 18-I |
| 188. Egelman, | 20-L |
| 189. Hampden, | 18-L |
| 190. Penn Street, | 17-M |
| 191. Philadelphia & Reading, | 15-G |
| 192. West Reading, | 12-M |

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